

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LVI.]

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Epitome of the Week, &c.	159
Leading Articles:—	
The British Empire	160
Russia and Manchuria	160
French Projects at Kwanchauwan	161
The Hunan Murder	162
The Native Labour Question	162
Daring Robbery in Barker Road	162
Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese	163
The Health of Hongkong	164
The Hunan Murder	164
The Pontianak Fire	164
Capt. Percy Scott's Loading Tray	164
An Interview with General Dordard	164
The Szechuen Rebellion	164
The Trouble in Northern Siam	165
Newchwang	165
Northern Notes	165
Correspondence	165
Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd.	167
Supreme Court	167
Reviews	168
Hongkong Polo Club Gymkhana	169
Royal Hongkong Golf Club	169
Hongkong Chess Club	169
Praise for H.M.S. Ocean	169
Abolition of Slavery in the Philippines	170
The China Medal	170
Governor Taft on the Philippines	170
Hongkong	170
Miscellaneous	171
Commercial	172
Shipping	174

BIRTHS.

On the 24th July, at Blackheath, England, the wife of ARTHUR SUGDEN, I. M. Customs, of a son.

On the 14th August, at Tientsin, the wife of G. BUTLAND, of a son.

On the 18th August, at 195, Miller Road, Shanghai, the wife of G. H. ROSE, of a son.

On the 19th August, at No. 36, Nanking Road, Shanghai, the wife of J. J. JUDAH, of a son.

On the 27th August at the Government Civil Hospital, Hongkong, the wife of FRANK BROWNE, of a son.

DEATHS.

On the 17th August, at Berlin, CARL WILCK, aged 58 years.

On the 19th August, at the Shanghai General Hospital, ELIZABETH, the wife of ED. G. WILSON, aged 52 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 25th July arrived, per M.M. steamer *Leos*, on the 26th August (32 days); the English mail of the 1st August arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Bengal*, on the 29th August (28 days); and the American mail of the 1st August arrived, per P.M. steamer *Peru*, on the 29th August (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

H.E. the Governor, Sir Henry A. Blake, and party are likely to arrive in the Colony about the 9th prox by the C.P.R. liner then due.

The *Siam Observer* gives an authoritative contradiction to a report that the Government of Siam is sending troops to Kelantan or some other part of the Malay Peninsula.

Our London correspondent telegraphed under date 25th August:—The French authorities are considering the project for establishing a naval base at Kwanchauwan, between Nivet and Fort Bayard, involving a cost of £1,250,000.

It is reported that the re-establishment of free trade in Vladivostok is being considered by the Russian Ministry of Finance, as it is found impossible to guard the frontier of several thousand versts to prevent smuggling, and the only logical way out of this difficulty is the return to the old state of affairs, i.e., free trade.

The *Universal Gazette's* Peking correspondent reports that the Wai Wu Pu has recently informed the foreign Ministers at Peking to the effect that the quarantine regulations now in force at the Treaty Ports are too arbitrary for the Chinese to endure, and that they are requested to take immediate steps to have these regulations relaxed.

Mr. Thomas Henderson Whitehead, the home papers state, has been appointed joint manager of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, in conjunction with Mr. Caleb Lewis. We congratulate Mr. Whitehead on this merited distinction, which unfortunately, however, seems to dispose of any hopes of his return to Hongkong.

The Japanese vernacular papers state that the question of the House Tax is to be submitted to the Hague Tribunal. It is added that the Japanese authorities have proposed that the judgment shall be drafted in Japanese, English, French and German, but that the [?] representative at Tokyo insists that it shall be in French and Japanese only.

General Chaffee, who has been on a visit to Mindanao, and is now on his way back to Manila, has cabled to the War Department at Washington that the outlook in the island is so threatening that it is absolutely necessary to advance on the fort of Bacod, and make a determined show of force. General Chaffee has been granted full power to deal with the situation.

The *Nagasaki Press* understands that the shipping headquarters of the Chinese Eastern Railway Co. will shortly be moved to Dalny, and that port will accordingly become the starting point for the steamers running to Japan and China in connection with the railway service. It is said that the Company contemplate a considerable extension of this shipping service.

The *Paris Temps* announces the imminent opening at Paris of negotiations on the subject of Siam. It is considered that the existing difficulties can be smoothed over. To prove its desire to arrive at an understanding, Siam has requested France to designate a functionary who is to hold an important position at Bangkok. Meanwhile, the Russian Press, according to an *Ostasiatische Lloyd* telegram, promises France Russia's support against Siam!

The *N.-C. Daily News* says, in its Notes on Native Affairs, that General Ma Wei-ch'i, Provincial Commander-in-Chief designate of Szechuen, who is still in Kwangtung province, has asked for and obtained permission from the Throne to enlist a brigade of some 5,000 Cantonese troops to take with him to Szechuen to suppress the Boxers there.

The *Standard's* Odessa correspondent says that Russia's fulfilment or repudiation of the agreement to evacuate Manchuria depends upon the settlement of the question of the retention of or retrogression from the right bank of the Amur river. If the territory on the right bank is retroceded it is considered that Russia's position will prove perilous. It is believed in St. Petersburg official circles that Russia will formally annex the whole of the right bank up to the Khingan mountains.

No particulars are to hand of the eruption on Torishima, Bonin Islands. The Tokyo authorities have sent a party of engineers and other officers to investigate the matter on the spot. There were about 150 inhabitants, and 40 houses, on the island. The captain of the N.Y.K. *Hyogo Maru*, who first brought the news of the disaster to Nagasaki, fears that very few if any of the inhabitants of the island have escaped death, and that great destruction must have been dealt to animal and vegetation.

A Snifu correspondent, quoted in the *N.-C. Daily News*, says:—"The rebels, or outlaws, are gathering together in large numbers to the south of us, and many of the gentry have suffered much at their hands. The continual change of mandarins here is a menace to peace, and both the British and French residents feel it is time something was done to stop this action of the higher officials, who are simply filling their pockets at the expense of the unfortunate magistrates. We have had no less than four Hsien magistrates here in seven months!"

The British authorities have lost no time in preparing for the investigation of the murder of Messrs. Bruce and Lovis, says the *N.-C. Daily News* in its issue of the 25th inst. Mr. Lancelot Giles, of H.M.'s Consular service, has gone to Changsha, the capital of Hunan, in H.M.S. *Snipe* to take the deputy of the Governor of Hunan to Changteh, and accompany him to Chenchou to investigate the tragedy. This prompt dispatch of a British Consular official in a British gunboat will give great satisfaction to all the fellow-subjects of the murdered missionaries.

It would seem that there is something the matter, in the opinion of the Chinese Tariff Commissioners, Sheng and Lü, with reference to the recent signing of the Tariff Treaty by Mr. Sharretts, the United States Tariff Commissioner, as may be seen from the gist of a telegram published in the *Sinwenzpao*, sent the latter part of last week by the former to the Chinese Minister Wu, at Washington:—"The American Tariff Commissioner, Mr. Sharretts, clandestinely signed the Tariff Treaty, without formally notifying us, and then suddenly left for his own country. We therefore request your Excellency to enquire from the United States Government whom they intended to appoint to sign in our presence our Tariff Treaty with that Government in the event of our receiving Imperial instructions to sign the said document."

THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

(Daily Press, 26th August.)

The South African war has emphasised the fact that the British Empire must for the future stand or fall together. This fact first presented itself to the nation at the Diamond Jubilee of 1897; but it was not till the nation at large saw the danger to the common interest should South Africa fall under influences other than British that the decisive blow was struck, and the Empire of "All The Britains" appeared Minerva-like armed *cap-a-pie* that the dream took corporeal existence, and was no longer a mere vision of an overwrought imagination. But if the new Empire has assumed in the face of the world at large certain pretensions, it has also *pari passu* incurred certain obligations; and though a portion of our older politicians would willingly postpone or forget these obligations, there come warning notes from too many quarters that the present is not a time to be taken unawares; but that for good or ill we must be prepared to make good our pretensions as a world-wide Empire. This is the lesson to be learnt from history, ancient as well as modern. Long before the beginning of authentic history we find the Greek states in Asia Minor, individually feeble as they were through lack of population and the exaggerated value put on merely personal liberty, largely swaying the councils of the huge monarchies of Egypt and Assyria. Their skill and courage in war, and their wisdom in council gave them a position out of all proportion to their strength as a nation. The same feeling which caused the highest political unit of the Greeks to be, not a country nor a people, but a mere city, was evidenced in the Greek colonies, which, once they had left their mother-home, had no higher ambition than to found separate cities, as often as not hostile to the mother state, and at no time a source of greatness or strength. Once partially, but in the event only partially, the Greek states joined their forces against a common enemy, and in the defeat of the great Persian invasion showed what Greece might have been had the only permitted idea of union to overcome the strife of party. Once a stronger head than that of his fellows did indeed unite the Greeks forcibly in the conquest of Asia, and the realm of ALEXANDER, under the leadership of that great master-mind, bid fair to make of Greece a world power; but with the too early death of ALEXANDER the spirit of disruption again prevailed, and his territory awaited the advent of a wiser if less talented race. Rome, far less brilliant in her early development, from the first day set about to consolidate and assimilate each successive conquest. Cities and peoples were not overrun for the mere sake of barbarian conquest, but were taught the higher necessity of working together with the common object of founding a great Empire. Roman law and Roman finance were everywhere introduced, and the honour of being a Roman citizen was appreciated by the farthest dweller in Asia Minor as highly as by the dweller in the Italian cities. The result of all this was that except for her literary culture, the name of Greek, once as famous in arms as in arts, sank down to be the title of a race of literary pedants. Rome fell indeed in the end before the attacks of the northern races, inferior to herself in no way in the scale of mental ability, and far her superiors in those inward graces of truth, honour, and chivalry, which are the main standards of continuing greatness. But Rome did not

fall without leaving her mark on all succeeding time. She had introduced for the first time in human history a system of universal law which to the present time survives as the basis of civil law. Nor was she less successful in the regions of finance and statescraft, and in her ability of utilising in the common good the diverse practices of her constituent peoples.

Nor was the lesson once learnt ever forgotten. One by one the new states that grew out of the partition of the old Empire adopted its ways and its institutions, and the coronation of the Great KARL in the Basilica of St. Peter in Rome on Christmas day, 800, was the crowning achievement of the old Roman civilisation.

Although CHARLES's Empire fell on evil times, the central point has never been forgotten that common law and common finance must ever be the characteristics of abiding Empire; and it is noteworthy that when modern Germany saw the helpless state into which the old empire had fallen, her first instinctive act as a common nation was to establish a toll union, and abolish those petty regulations between the petty states of which she was then composed, which assiduously kept asunder the elements sighing already for union. In the same way it has been the boast of Great Britain that following the example of the old Roman she has introduced in her colonies the elements of a common law and a common system of finance. It is indeed true, superficially at least, that the apparent divisions of the laws are as numerous as the colonies themselves, while to large sections the Common Law of England is a thing unrecognised. South Africa has adopted for instance the civil law of Rome as developed in modern Holland. Quebec still upholds after its supercession in France itself the old Customary French law, a modification of which is to be found in Mauritius and elsewhere. Yet with these exceptions, more apparent than real, it is nevertheless the fact that the customary law of the British Empire is everywhere fundamentally the same, and that the Englishman, except in the merest matters of detail, finds himself just as confident of receiving justice in any of the dependencies of the British Crown, be it situated in Europe, Asia, Africa, America, or our own continental dependency of Australia: wherever, in fact, the *pax Britannica* prevails.

In matters of finance very much the same may be affirmed; the systems, it is equally true, are as diverse as the colonies themselves. Canada and Australia have only within the last few years, not yet ten, entered upon apparently different paths. Protection, the idol of the one, is in the other coming to be a byword; and yet we are compelled to hold, that however differing be the methods they are all tending to a common end. A certain school of economists would indeed, under the shibboleth of free trade, still further emphasise the differences which must in all healthy states exist, by making them obstacles in the path of union. The late W. E. GLADSTONE, himself one of the most accomplished Greek scholars of his day, with the Greek language imbibed the centrifugal Greek weaknesses. For him the State was still the city, and the empire which would call for the sinking of the individual in the higher idea of the state was for him an abomination. We are not going to revive the old contests which did not survive his immediate life; but we may well wonder at the developments which have already rendered obsolete the battle-cries of party but a short fifteen years ago. One of the most marked ambitions of the day is curiously founded on the reversal of all that

the Gladstonian school of economists professed to hold most sacred. We hear from certain quarters the cry of preferential trade, as if the internal trade of a country were a thing to be set about with racks and fetters. The question now before the country assumes far wider limits. Is our trade to be local or imperial? Is it more consonant with the possibility of empire to have duties hampering our increasing trade, say with Canada, or even with Australia, than in the old days that England should urge a protective tariff against Scotland or Ireland? Such things have happened, and in those days just the same arguments were made use of towards removing these disabilities as we hear nowadays, against what certain people look upon as little less than the service of Baal—an Imperial Zollverein. To get rid of inter-colonial duties is not yet one of the possibilities of finance, either at home or in the colonies themselves; but it is well to remember that every step, however short, taken in this direction brings us so much nearer to the conception of a genuine, instead of a mere pinchbeck, Empire.

RUSSIA AND MANCHURIA.

(Daily Press, 25th August.)

On the 8th April last a convention was signed at Peking by M. LESSAR, Russian Minister to Peking, on the one hand, and Prince CHING and WANG WEN-SHAO, on the other, whereby Russia agreed to withdraw in the course of six months after the signature her troops in the south-western portion of Moukden as far as the Liao River, and to restore the railway to China; to withdraw within the next six months her troops from the remainder of Moukden and from Kirin; and to withdraw the following six months the rest of her troops in Heilung-kiang. The terms of this convention as published first from Chinese sources and afterwards in the St. Petersburg *Official Messenger* coincided, so that there can be no doubt of their accuracy. According to the agreement therefore, the first portion of Manchuria, the south-western part of the "province" of Moukden or Shingking, should be completely evacuated by the 8th October. It is hardly necessary to state that no news of this evacuation proceeding has reached us. We have alluded on several occasions to a ridiculous assurance given at the end of June by Count CASSINI to the Government to which he is accredited as Minister at Washington that Manchuria had then been evacuated. What Count CASSINI meant, we do not profess to fathom; but for the circumstantial nature of the report we should have been inclined to treat it as an invention. Russia had not bound herself to evacuate Manchuria by the end of June, but only a small part of the whole province by the 8th October; and Russia is not wont to let her performance exceed her promises. The telegram which we publish from our London correspondent to-day puts a very different complexion on affairs. According to the London *Standard's* representative at Odessa, the question of evacuating Manchuria, despite any convention, is looked upon by Russia as quite unsettled. It depends upon whether Russia decides to continue in occupation of the right or southern bank of the Amur River or to abandon it, it being thought that Russia's position will prove perilous if she retires across the Amur. What then, it may be asked, becomes of the Manchurian Convention? It is true that the Peking Government was warned that the convention would be voided in event of misbehaviour on the part of the Chinese, and it was felt that such a warning was intended

to give Russia an opportunity of breaking faith with a show of justification. China was of course powerless to make the proper retort. The Tsar had given "a new proof of his love of peace and of his sentiments of friendship toward His Majesty the Emperor of China," as the convention so nicely phrased it, and if he proceeded at once to show that the new proof was as valueless as the old, China alone could not insist on the observance of the treaty. It is now believed in official circles in St. Petersburg that Russia will formally annex the whole of the right bank of the Amur River as far as the Khingan mountains, the border range of Mongolia, wherein the source of the Amur is to be found. It may be remembered that after the infamous massacre of Blagovestchensk a large extent of the right bank was, without previous sanction from St. Petersburg, declared Russian territory with a grim mockery of a religious service of thanksgiving for the "victory" achieved. Officially, however, Russian soil still ends north of the Amur River, where MURAVIOFF fixed it in 1858 by the treaty of Aigun. This defect it is apparently proposed to remedy by retaining the whole of the right bank of the Amur. It would be interesting to know in what way official circles at St. Petersburg consider that Russia's position will be rendered less "perilous" by getting rid of a boundary formed by a strong natural feature such as the Amur. Doubtless the annexation of the whole of the Hei-lung-kiang division of Manchuria would make St. Petersburg officials feel much safer. The precautionary extension of the Siberian frontier might thus be continued indefinitely. There is only one thought which might occur to interrupt so pleasant a reverie about the expansion of the Tsar's dominions, and that is: What about the Powers which have great legitimate interests in Manchuria? China was urged on by certain nations to reject various drafts of the Manchurian convention and only finally signed an agreement in which Russia made many fair promises. The commercial Powers will merely stultify their previous conduct if they now resign themselves to seeing the convention of April, 1902, torn up and Russia given a free hand to absorb at her leisure as much of Manchuria as she chooses. Russian good-faith has long been a byword in the Far East. The Manchurian negotiations are likely to make its name still more odious if the matter has to be settled between Russia and China alone.

(Daily Press, 29th August.)

Muscovite policy is always tortuous, and Russian statesmen are pastmasters in the art of bluffing. At the present moment nothing seems more desirable to them than the diversion of public attention from what is proceeding in the Far East. Very opportunely for the policy of the Russian Chancellor an article has appeared in the *Novoe Vremya* asking whether the time has not arrived for Russia to secure the right to penetrate within the borders of Afghanistan, to develop her commercial relations with that country, and to send a representative to reside in Cabul. Of course the *Novoe* affects to consider these aspirations as most legitimate and indispensable. But as a matter of fact the St. Petersburg journal probably cares very little about the interior of Afghanistan, which is pretty well known to Russians; still less about the development of Russian trade with this country, which is practically nil, and could never become much; while the desire to have an accredited representative to the *Amirs* is probably limited to the wish to

annoy the Indian Government. The whole thing is no doubt an inspired attempt to draw a red herring across the trail of Russian schemes in the Far East. Far too much attention to be pleasant at St. Petersburg is at present being given both by the British Government and by the British Press to Russian movements in Manchuria. It is becoming increasingly evident from the tactics pursued that the Russian Government have no intention of willingly withdrawing from their occupation of Manchuria. So far is this from being their intention that the garrisons maintained by them, avowedly for the protection of the railways, now number some eighty thousand troops. This is really an army of occupation, by which they hope to maintain their hold on the country. British attention to their projects is, however, very unwelcome, and if by any device they can divert this attention to another quarter they will be only too glad to do so. It is quite sufficient to have the Japanese watching them with profound suspicion and mistrust, and a fixed intention to call check when they think the game has proceeded far enough. The British Government and Press, however, are not likely to be thus gulled. They are pretty well posted as to the course of affairs, and are presumably prepared to endorse any action the Japanese may take presently to compel the Russians to evacuate Manchuria. We note that General DORWARD believes that Russia will only retire at the last moment, and when actually threatened with war. She has everything to gain by delay, and will defer such evacuation to the very last moment, in the hope that something may intervene, either by Great Britain or Japan becoming elsewhere embarrassed, or by a change in the policy of one or other of them being effected. Russia has set her heart upon the ultimate annexation of Manchuria, and she will not retreat from her present position while the least shred of hope that she will be permitted to work her will there remains. It is on some counts to be regretted that some amicable arrangement cannot be come to whereby Russia might be permitted to secure at least a strip of territory for her great railway to its seaward terminus, but unfortunately past history has so conspicuously shown that she cannot be trusted that therefore such a concession cannot be allowed. We have to deal with the facts as they are, not as they might be, and the most patent fact is that Russia, when in pursuit of her own ends, is troubled by no scruples, restrained by no consideration for the rights of other Powers. It was no doubt the absolute conviction of this circumstance that induced Lord SALISBURY so far to forsake the traditions of British policy in the past as to enter into an alliance with Japan for the protection of our mutual interests on the Pacific coast. And having once entered into the compact, Russia may be very certain that neither party to it will prove particularly accommodating to her schemes in Manchuria, nor will they be found ready to swallow the first bolus that may be prepared to induce them fix their attention in some other direction while the Bear proceeds to carry out his projects in Eastern Asia.

The Formosans are cutting their hair at a great rate, says a correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, and as this means acceptance of the established order of things, the Japanese government is delighted, and official accounts are regularly sent home of the number that present themselves daily at the barbers. In Suifu, a place somewhere or other in the southern part of the Island, the number has reached 1,500.

FRENCH PROJECTS AT KWANCHAU-WAN.

(Daily Press, 27th August.)

We can hardly regard as new the intelligence telegraphed from London in our issue of to-day, that the French authorities are considering the project to establish a naval base at Kwanchau-wan. This project is mentioned in the book which we reviewed yesterday, *The French in Tonkin and South China*, and the creation of a naval base on the spot was one of the schemes of the restless M. DOUMER, who predicted just before he left Indo-China that Kwanchau-wan would become one of France's great naval establishments. Furthermore, a recently published report of the Director of Public Works for Indo-China announces that a naval base is to be set up there. Perhaps the news intended to be conveyed by the London telegram is that the authorities in Paris have at the present time under deliberation the speedy carrying into effect of such a plan. Fort Bayard, mentioned in the despatch, is the civil settlement of Kwanchau-wan at the mouth of the river and Nivet is a short distance off nearer the entrance of the bay. There can be no doubt that the site is well chosen. The Director of Public Works in the report referred to above points out—we quote from Mr. CUNNINGHAM's book—that the Bay of Kwanchau-wan seems naturally destined to be the *point d'appui* of the French fleet in the Far East, as there is ample accommodation in it for a large squadron, and for more than ten miles there is an average depth of twenty metres. In conjunction with Admiral PORTIER he went fully into the question and they recommended the government to undertake two docks, coal-wharves, an arsenal and fortifications, and dredging operations; the latter are very necessary, as there is a sand-bar to be got rid of. The estimate of the expenses of such a scheme exceeded twenty-eight millions of francs. The cost as given in our London correspondent's despatch is £1,250,000, which is a little more. The idea is an ambitious one and if carried out thoroughly will give France an admirable base for her navy in South China, well situated and naturally strong, and is within a few hours of the prosperous coalfields of Hongay where a second-class naval station is to be established. It will also without doubt largely decide the question of the future prosperity of Kwanchau-wan, particularly if, in accordance with the advice of M. DOUMER, it is maintained as an open port and not brought under the protective system which hinders the growth of Indo-Chinese trade. If the confidence of the natives can be restored, the situation of the French port gives it a great opportunity of capturing the transit trade at present starting from and coming to Pakhoi. With the addition of a railway (which is not altogether undreamt of by some ambitious French Colonials), a revolution might be effected in the trade of South China. We do not even hazard a guess whether such changes are probable. But their possibility is something which Hongkong cannot afford to lose sight of, in the comfortable confidence of her present prosperity. In the political aspect of the matter, too, Hongkong is vitally interested. Kwanchau-wan is but two hundred miles from Hongkong, and did it become under French rule a first-class naval base it is useless to shut our eyes to the fact that the strategic position of Hongkong would be materially affected. However friendly the Power, the close proximity of a great naval base and depot of that Power to one

of our most important possessions, as this island undoubtedly is, can only be looked on as a menace, necessitating a strengthening of our resources in this part of the world. Kwanchau-wan, we are quite prepared to believe, was occupied and will be converted into a naval base, without any hostile intentions against Great Britain; but, nevertheless, the threat is there, latent though it may be.

THE HUNAN MURDER.

(Contributed.)

The murder of two missionaries in Hunan, which was first announced by telegraph by our Shanghai correspondent, is said by REUTER to be causing considerable uneasiness, the remoteness of the district making it difficult to obtain information. The missionaries, who are stated to have been beaten to death by a riotous mob, were Messrs. J. R. Bruce and R. H. Lewis, who belonged to the China Inland Mission, and were stationed at Ch'en-cheo, or Cheng-chou, a considerable city on the Siaug river, south of the capital, Changsha. Our correspondent has thrown some light upon the outbreak, for he tells us that the riot was caused by the dissemination of a rumour to the effect that the missionaries had administered poisoned medicine. Another report is that the foreigners were held responsible for an outbreak of cholera in the city. The rage of the mob also induced them to attack the Chinese Imperial Post Office—probably the only other semi-foreign building in the city—which they succeeded in demolishing, the Postmaster being severely wounded in the fray. It is clear enough from even these scanty particulars that the anti-foreign agitators in Changsha—who poured such a stream of utterly disgraceful literature from the presses of that city all through the Yangtze Valley in 1891, when a most determined effort was made to arouse such a demonstration against the Christian religion as would lead to its effectual suppression—have again been actively at work. On the former occasion a member of the *literati* and an expectant Taotai, CHOU HAN by name, distinguished himself by causing the issue of a host of most libellous anti-foreign placards, distributed broad-cast, and it is believed that he was the author of a vile and disgusting book, entitled *Kwei Kiao Kai Sz*, or "Death to the Devil's Religion," which was also published by the Hunan printing presses. A collection of cartoons with the descriptive letterpress was in 1891 printed at Hankow by the missionaries for the information of foreigners and to give an idea of the manner in which the populace were being misled by the anti-foreign officials and gentry of Hunan. This book, which is entitled *The Cause of the Riots in the Yangtze Valley: A Complete Picture Gallery*, showed most conclusively how the misrepresentations of and slanders upon foreigners were calculated to goad the natives to the commission of the most serious outrages, and these were perpetrated in about half a score of places, and included not only the destruction of mission-premises and the wholesale slaughter of converts, but also in several cases the barbarous murder of the missionaries as well. At that time the opening up of the province of Hunan to foreign trade and residence was earnestly advocated in these columns both as a punishment to the Hunan gentry and as a measure of precaution to avert these outbreaks with their too frequent fatal results. It was thought, and we still think, rightly, that nothing would more tend to dispel the foolish and wicked aspersions which had been cast upon the

missionary body than free intercourse and trade with foreigners. The ignorance and superstition of the people, on which the Chinese pamphleteers had so successfully traded, would be in great measure dispelled by actual contact with the foreigner, and the opening up of the province would be a blow to the pride and prejudices of the Hunanese which was most thoroughly deserved. The much enduring and long-suffering British Government would not, however, for some reason unknown, then press for this reparation, and the anti-foreign party in China were emboldened to further efforts to fan the anti-foreign flame which culminated, at the end of the nineteenth century, in wholesale massacres of missionaries in the Northern provinces and the daring attack on the Legations in Peking. Even now, so little have we learned by the lessons of the past that the missionaries have been allowed to return to places in the interior, far from the reach of help, and completely at the mercy of the semi-savages who can in a brief half-hour be stirred to outrage and murder by incendiary placards or speeches in the tea-houses. If the missionaries are to be encouraged to seek the crown of martyrdom in the interior of China, then it is absolutely necessary that efficient protection should be afforded to them and the public spared the shock of hearing periodically of some appalling outrage in the so-called Celestial Empire. There is one sure and certain way by which such protection could be assured, but could the flaccid policy of the British Foreign Office by any possibility be stiffened to demand it? We mean that whenever a foreigner, whether merchant or missionary, is foully done to death in China, the head of the viceroy responsible should roll in the dust as atonement.

THE NATIVE LABOUR QUESTION.

We have received from the Secretary of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, with a request for publication, the following letter. Mr. Lowe at the same time informs us that the Attorney-General has drafted a Bill to meet the cause of the complaint.

Hongkong, 5th June, 1902.

SIR,—I beg to bring to the notice of your Chamber a matter which affects the commercial interests of Hongkong, viz., the growing tendency of Chinese in the service of foreigners to leave employment without notice and the inconvenience and loss to which employers are subject in consequence. And if your Chamber is of opinion that the evil is of sufficient extent and importance to justify remedial measures I beg to request that representations be made to Government with a view to legislation on the subject.

With regard to the extent of the evil I can of course speak with certainty only of those instances under my immediate notice, but from enquiries made of others I find the case of the Wharf Co. is not singular. The average Chinaman entering foreign employ has apparently no intention of giving fair service for fair pay. He takes employment as a matter of convenience; he intends to stay just as long as will enable him to learn a little English, find higher wages or other more congenial employment; then without the slightest warning and having received his pay, he departs, leaving the employer to shift as best he can without him. The inconvenience caused by this state of affairs, bad though it be, is however trivial compared with the serious consequences arising from a strike.

A Chinaman rarely follows the practice of other nationalities by giving his employer an opportunity of remedying a grievance, so that as a rule the first indication of it is stoppage of work, and the employer is face to face with that most effective weapon of theirs—combination—whilst the absence of legal protection from unjust combination, gives no alternative but to submit.

Disputes between employers and employed are of course time-worn subjects all the world over and elsewhere generally adjust themselves; but in Hongkong circumstances are peculiar and call for special treatment.

The native population is essentially a floating one: thousands come from the mainland, earn for a brief period what is to them fabulous pay, and then return to their homes for good. Thousands are attracted to the Colony by the high pay but, finding the surroundings uncongenial, likewise return for good.

The stream of change is ever flowing and there is no failure of supply. There is no permanence of residence; practically every man's home is elsewhere, and the Colony is looked upon as a place wherein to try one's luck and clear out winner or loser, the result being continual change of employment. Cook to-day, tallyman to-morrow, coxswain, gardener, watchman, shroff in turn, jacks of all trades, they are good at none.

To further emphasise this evil the Colony is honeycombed with so-called "clubs," otherwise societies of those following the same employment which, supported by subscriptions, afford food and shelter to those out of work, and where matters connected with their particular interests are discussed, the decisions of the club, often illegal, being binding on every member.

There is no incentive to honest work, no disgrace in dismissal; it is so easy to obtain new employment and when out of it there is the club or lodging with a friend at his master's expense. There is no family influence for good, and as the lower-class Chinaman's ambition does not as a rule extend beyond his daily meals, it is not difficult to see the causes which have changed what 20 years ago was an industrious, faithful and useful servant into the slipshod, worthless, indolent creature with which the Colony swarms to-day.

Thus matters are and thus must they continue until the evil finds its cure; meanwhile much good could I think be done if, as in the case of domestic servants, it were made a punishable offence to leave regular employment without notice and I beg to ask that the Chamber will be good enough to address Government on the subject with this object in view.

As the law stands, employees can demand a month's salary in lieu of notice, whereas the employer has no redress against his servant, except he be a domestic. It seems to me unfair that this should be so and that if it be compulsory for the master to give his servant a month's notice it should also be incumbent on the servant to do the same, especially so in Hongkong where if there is any class needing protection against another, it is the foreigner against the native servant.—I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

EDWARD OSBORNE,
Secretary.

A. R. LOWE, Esq., Secretary,
Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

DARING ROBBERY IN BARKER ROAD.

A week ago we chronicled the fact of the robbery of a European lady in Battery Path, when a street coolie, in almost broad daylight, snatched away her gold watch and chain. Capture followed, and he was sentenced to six months' hard labour, fourteen days to be spent in solitary confinement and two whippings of twenty strokes each to be administered. The sentence was an exemplary one, but thoroughly well deserved. Now we have to report another robbery equally daring in execution, and differing only slightly in its attendant circumstances. The victim in the present case is Mrs. Stephens, wife of Mr. M. J. D. Stephens, solicitor, upon whom a representative of this paper called on Thursday and received the following particulars of an adventure from which she emerges the poorer by a leather handbag containing a silver watch, a gold pencil-case, and about eight dollars in money, besides a handkerchief, a tram-ticket, and some papers, but an adventure nevertheless in which the lady acquitted herself with a high degree of pluck.

Mrs. Stephens was walking along Barker Road, from the Magazine Gap end, when she passed a lady and child, behind whom she noticed an ordinary-looking coolie, clad in the usual

dress of his class and with his queue coiled round his head. There was nothing in his appearance to excite either interest or attention, and Mrs. Stephens passed him with no more than a glance, and had proceeded about a hundred yards when she felt rather than saw or heard that some one was coming up behind, some one whose feet made no sound on the hard road. She went on a little farther, and as her feelings of uneasiness increased she looked round from under her raised umbrella and saw a coolie a short distance away—the coolie whom she had noticed following the other lady and child. Mrs. Stephens did not immediately stop or give any indications of alarm that might have had the effect of precipitating matters; she proceeded on her way for about half-a-dozen yards, then, as the coolie was drawing closer, she stepped to one side of the road, against the wall, with the intention of allowing him to pass. What followed was a confirmation of her suspicions of the evil designs of the coolie, for he also stopped dead and came nearer to Mrs. Stephens. She lowered her umbrella, and, pointing it in front, said "Go away." The injunction was obeyed, but the coolie returned the next instant, and Mrs. Stephens then saw that one hand was full of gravel, which he probably purposed throwing in her eyes, so as to blind her temporarily. His intentions discovered, the coolie lost no time in their execution. Mrs. Stephens' bag was hanging by its straps from her waist-belt, and this he made a sudden snatch at and caught hold of. Mrs. Stephens instantly and pluckily responded by striking him over the head with her umbrella, the steel head of which was bent to a half circle by the blows, and even clutched him by the throat. She held on for some moments, screaming to attract attention, but the coolie's superior strength told and he succeeded in wrenching away the bag and making his escape. He made a dash for the hillside, up which he clambered hurriedly. Not a soul was in sight on the roadway, but at the top of the hillside there appeared some coolies who stared first at the lady and then at the climbing coolie with the bag clutched in his hand. Not a hand nor foot did they stir, and seeing that no help was to be expected in that direction Mrs. Stephens hurried back along Barker Road till she met a house-boy, whom she told what had happened. He went with Mrs. Stephens to the place of the robbery, and shouted to the coolies on the hillside to stop the escaping thief. They ran for about a dozen yards, and, instead of catching him, which they easily could have done, came back and asked "if the lady would pay 'cumsha'." Mrs. Stephens replied, "Yes, twenty dollars to the one who stops that coolie," and although this handsome offer had the effect of making them run another few steps, they soon gave up the chase and turned unconcernedly away. Mrs. Stephens and the house-boy went back again in the direction of Magazine Gap, and near to Plantation Road met a *lukong* who, on hearing the story, ran along Barker Road and made a determined but ineffectual attempt to capture the impudent thief, now disappearing over the top of the hillside. He got clear away, and is still at liberty.

The question that will naturally rise in one's mind, after reading the above, is—"Where were the police?" and although not infrequently these servants of the law and the public are hastily and wrongly condemned, there is in the present instance a strong element of justification for the query, for it is a notorious fact and a standing complaint of Peak residents and others that many of the roads in the upper levels are ineffectively patrolled. With the exception of the *lukong* whom she met some distance from the scene of the robbery, Mrs. Stephens did not see a single policeman till she got near to Plantation Road Station, when she saw the back of a European officer. In the light of what has transpired and of what may reasonably be expected to occur in the future, we think that the necessary remedial measures should be applied promptly.

H.M.S. *Terrible*, which was expected at Colombo in time for the Coronation festivities, on her way home, only arrived on the morning of the 10th inst.

HONGKONG COLLEGE OF MEDICINE FOR CHINESE.

A meeting of the General Council and students of this College was held on the 28th inst. in the Legislative Council Chamber, when H. E. Sir W. J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., Officer Administering the Government, presented the diploma of the College to five students who have completed the curriculum of study and passed the professional examinations. H. E. Major-General Gascoigne presided, and the others present were the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G. (Rector of the College), Hon. Dr. F. W. Clark (Dean), Dr. J. C. Thomson (Hon. Secretary), Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., Dr. R. MacLean Gibson, Dr. Hunter, Dr. G. H. Bateson Wright, Major Whitty, R.A.M.C., Major Clark, R.A.M.C., Mr. F. Browne, Mr. W. J. Tatcher, Mr. D. Wood, Rev. T. W. Pearce, Rev. H. R. Wells, Mr. A. J. May, Mr. G. Piercy, Dr. Wan Tun Mo, Dr. To Ying Fan, and students of the College.

In explaining the object of the meeting, His Excellency said—Gentlemen, we have met here to-day for the purpose of presenting diplomas to five successful gentlemen. I can only say that I esteem it a very high honour indeed, and it has been a great pleasure to me, to be asked to be the means of presenting these diplomas to the successful candidates.

In presenting the students who had passed all the professional examinations entitling them to the diploma of the College, the Hon. Dr. FRANCIS CLARK, Dean of the College, said—I have the honour to present to Your Excellency Messrs Tee Han Kee, Lau Lai, Ho Ko Tsun, Lee Yin Sze and Chan Fai Kwong, to receive at your hands the diploma of the Hongkong College of Medicine which these gentlemen have earned after a period of five years of study and tuition—both practical and theoretical—and by passing the various examinations of our College. Our teaching and our examinations are conducted in a language which is to them a foreign one, and which has first to be acquired by years of study in our English schools, and it is not to be wondered at, therefore, that nearly forty per cent. of the students who are enrolled in our College never attain to the dignity of a diploma; but are forced to retire on finding that the standard of our examinations is higher than they can ever hope to attain to. The achievements, therefore, of diplomas by these five gentlemen is, I think, worthy of more than passing consideration, and that men should yet be found to come forward in considerable numbers to undergo such a course of training in Western medicine affords eloquent testimony of the wisdom and foresight of the founders of our College, of whom Dr Patrick Manson was one of the first and has always been one of the most enthusiastic. (Applause.) We have every reason to be proud of those who have successfully passed out of our College, and rightfully regard them as the pioneers of Western medicine among their fellow countrymen. To them is entrusted the honour of our profession, and upon them we rely to demonstrate by their lives and by their work the fearlessness in danger, the dignity, and the unerring rectitude of conduct which should ever guide those who practice the art of medicine. (Applause.) Every well-wisher of the College will be more than glad to learn that the services of these five gentlemen have already been requisitioned; one of them proceeds at once to an official post in the brand-new Colony of our American consuls—our near neighbour Manila—while the services of the remaining four are being retained by this Government, one for a dispensary in Wanchai, where he has already commenced work, and three as medical assistants for plague and for bacteriological duties. The students therefore who are still pursuing their studies need have no misgivings, for we receive many more applications for their services than we are able to fill, and after all there is no place in the world where good men are so much in request as they are in the Far East. (Applause.)

The successful students advanced one by one in response to their names, and received their diplomas from His Excellency, who, in congratulating each, shook hands heartily with him. Their names are:—Tee Han Kee (with

distinction), Lau Lai, Lee Yin Sze, Ho Ko Tsun, and Chan Fai Kwong.

This part of the ceremony finished, His Excellency said—Gentlemen, as I said before, it is a very great honour and a very great pleasure to me to have been asked to present these diplomas to the successful gentlemen, and I beg to congratulate them all with my whole heart on the result of their labours. I know perfectly well it must have meant, as Dr. Clark has said, very hard and arduous work for them, and indeed it is a most creditable thing for them to have obtained these diplomas. Mr. Tee Han Kee has passed with distinction. Well, all I can say is that I congratulate him with all my heart. To have obtained a diploma at all must have meant an enormous amount of perseverance and study, and to have passed with distinction is still more creditable. I can only regret, though I congratulate him on his appointment to Manila—I can only regret that for the time being his services are passing away from the Colony. The other four gentlemen, I learn with great pleasure, are going to remain with us in various capacities, and I congratulate them with my whole heart on having won their diplomas. Gentlemen, it is indeed always a great pleasure to me, and a great honour, to take any little share in showing the interest that I feel in this College of Medicine. I can only say this, gentlemen—I speak entirely from personal feeling, and I do not profess that my views are those of everyone—I can only say that I think that of all followings and professions in life in which a man can be useful to his fellowmen, that of the study of medicine comes first and foremost. (Applause.) I believe myself there is no profession which brings about—which tends so strongly to bring about—the highest form of civilisation as that of healing the sick. I remember years ago I attended a church in Westminster—St. Margaret's, in London—and I listened to a most interesting sermon from a very distinguished clergyman who had the moral courage to say just what I have said—that of all forms of religion in his opinion that of healing the sick came first. I can only say that I think that the more these gentlemen are sent forth into the world with a knowledge of medicine and with the power of doing good to their fellowmen, they are doing an amount of good which I think can be equalled by no other class of men in the world. Therefore, gentlemen, every opportunity that comes to me of showing the interest I feel in this College of Medicine I gladly welcome, and I can only say again that I hope the example of these five gentlemen will be followed by many others. I believe myself that it will be the truest form of bringing about good feeling between all classes and all races. There is no better way in the world really of showing the good feeling that we entertain for all ranks and classes in the world. (Applause.)

Hon. F. H. MAY—Gentlemen, I beg to propose a vote of thanks to H.E. the Officer Administering the Government for being so kind as to come here to-day and also for the kind words of sympathy with the College that he has just uttered. I feel sure that the members of the General Council very much appreciate the honour His Excellency has done them in coming here to-day, and feel very grateful for the support which his presence here to-day testifies to our College.

Prolonged applause followed the close of the Colonial Secretary's remarks, and at its conclusion His Excellency said—Mr. May and gentlemen, I beg to thank you with my whole heart for the very kind way in which you have received the mention of my name. Gentlemen, believe me when I say that what I have just said regarding the interest I feel for the College of Medicine is not merely, what we say in vulgar parlance, "talking through my hat." (Laughter.) I really mean what I say, and if you would permit me—if the governing body of the College would permit me—to offer prizes or any other thing they can suggest would be most desirable—well, gentlemen, I shall consider it a very great honour indeed. I beg to thank you. (Applause.)

The meeting then dispersed.

The following is the form of the diploma:—We, the Dean, Lecturers and Examiners of the

Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese, hereby declare that—, having attended courses of lectures during a period of five years in the various departments of professional study required by the College, has been examined, and duly satisfied the Examiners, in each of those subjects; that he is qualified to practice Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery; and that by Authority of the Court of the College he is hereby granted the title of Licentiate in Medicine and Surgery of the Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese [L.M.S.H.].

It witness whereof we have hereto set our signatures on this 28th day of August in the year Nineteen hundred and Two, being the year of the Chinese Cycle Yam Yan.

THE HEALTH OF HONGKONG.

The year's cases of plague now number 563 (6 Europeans, 538 Chinese, 19 other Asiatics), while the deaths number 548 (4 Europeans, 529 Chinese, 15 other Asiatics). Two blank days were reported during the week.

Last week's figures of communicable disease in the Colony were:—Plague 11 cases (all Chinese, 10 in Victoria), with 11 deaths; Cholera 18 cases, (2 Europeans, 16 Chinese, 14 in Victoria), with 15 deaths, enteric fever, 1 European case.

The return of deaths in the Colony during July shows a total of 707, made up of 32 in the European and foreign community (28 civilians, 3 Army, 1 Navy) and 675 Chinese. 182 deaths were from plague, 136 from chest affections, 28 from malarial fever, and 25 from cholera. Plague was worst in No. 9 health district, where 44 deaths occurred. The death-rates in the principal registration districts were:—British and foreign civil community, 34.2 per 1,000 per annum; Chinese, Victoria, land 3.6, harbour 20.1; Chinese, whole Colony, land 28.8, boat 20.6, land and boat 27.6; whole civil community, 27.8.

THE HUNAN MURDER.

The Rev. J. W. Stevenson, the Deputy Director of the China Inland Mission, has forwarded to the *Shanghai Mercury* the following two letters, containing the latest information and the present details concerning the reported murder of Messrs. Bruce and Lewis at Chencheo:—

Letter from Chang Pahshuen, native evangelist at Chencheo, to Mr. Quirmbach of Changteh, dated Chencheo, August 15th:—

"I beg to inform you that the missionaries Messrs. Bruce and Lewis have been cruelly beaten to death in the Mission House by the people of Chencheo. I myself was nearly killed. I received a serious injury in my left hand and my left cheek and indeed my whole body was injured. Three days previously I exhorted the two missionaries to go to the Yamen of the Prefect named Wu for safety. They repeatedly said there was no cause for fear, but they said if you are afraid you can return to your family. They also said to the servant Wan if you are afraid you can go home too. The missionaries said this repeatedly.

We being powerless to help them, these two missionaries were killed. Through God's grace I have escaped. In the city and district there is a very severe epidemic, and there have been a very large number of deaths. It was rumoured that the cause of the deaths was distribution of poisonous medicines by the missionaries. Several hundred desperadoes gathered together, came to the Mission House and caused the disturbance. I specially send Mr. Bruce's servant, Wan Tao-sin, with this letter to Changteh that you may inform the Mission Director and also send some one here quickly from Changteh to bury the missionaries. All their property has been looted. This is a special report."

Extracts from letter from Mr. H. B. Stewart, dated Changteh, Hunan, Sunday, August 17, 1902:—

"I am afraid the dreadful news given in the enclosed letter is only too true. The bearer to us is Bruce's cook. I start for Chencheo tomorrow morning under official protection. I will investigate as soon as possible and then make a full report to you. Two gunboats—one German and one British—are here. The

German captain has generously offered to go full speed to Shasi and send my telegram from there. The British gunboat will stay and see me off under a full escort. On arrival at Chencheo, if necessary, I will see to the burial of our friends in a suitable place. I will return to Changteh as soon as possible."

THE PONTIANAK FIRE.

The *S. F. Press* says:—

Capt Odink, of the *Ban Fo Soon*, which arrived here from Pontianak this morning, brings the news of a devastating fire in the town of Pontianak. He states that on Sunday afternoon, the 17th inst., the whole of the native town was destroyed by fire, in three hours over 1,000 shops being burned to the ground. Hundreds of people were rendered homeless and they were lying in disco solate groups on every piece of waste land about the town, with such remnants of their property gathered about them as they had been enabled to save from the flames. The local fire brigade worked hard, but was unable to make much progress against the fire, which having seized on several of the dry attap-roofed and wooden-walled dwellings obtained a firm foothold, and although the steamers *Ban Fo Soon* and *Sambas* strenuously assisted the firemen with their lines of hose, they could do little to save the doomed quarter.

The damage is estimated at \$1,000,000, and among the greatest losers are Messrs Ban Seng, Ly Ah Sin, and Lim Kin Tjoen. Loss of life must have been heavy, but as the fire was still smouldering when the *Ban Fo Soon* left, the number of fatalities had not been computed. The outbreak was due to the observance of an old Chinese custom. An aged Chinawoman was burning paper money under the coffin of a deceased relative in order to provide for the soul's comfort in pecuniary matters in the next world, when the flames spread to a building near.

CAPTAIN PERCY SCOTT'S LOADING TRAY.

The writer of "Notes by the Way" in the *Ocean Magazine*, referring to the recent prize-firing out of which H.M.S. *Ocean* so triumphantly emerged, says:—

The Loading Tray Competition was one of the most novel items, and for the uninitiated it would perhaps be well to describe this invention of Captain Percy Scott, C.B., which enables us to obtain, by constant practice, rapidity in loading six-inch guns. It consists of a spare six-inch breech block which is fitted to a dummy breech of wood and iron, from behind which runs a tray or trough of wood. Thus the machine is, as far as the operation of loading is concerned, to all intents and purposes a six-inch gun. The projectile has to be lifted up, placed in the breech and rammed home, by hand, to the end of the trough; a dummy cartridge is next inserted, the breech closed, and the firing key pressed. The breech is then opened, the cartridge extracted and the evolution repeated as often as possible in a given time (two minutes). To ensure the projectile being rammed home sufficiently hard, only shots which reach the end of the trough are allowed to count.

AN INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL DORWARD.

Major-General Dorward, on arrival last month at Vancouver, gave his views to a newspaper representative on the Russo-Japanese situation, especially in relation to the question of Russia's withdrawal from Manchuria.

Major-General Dorward (a Victoria, B. C. paper says) speaks interestingly of the present and future crisis in the Far East, in which all eyes are on Russia. Will Russia evacuate Manchuria, or not? A solution of this question solves another, and that is, will there be war in the Far East? Major-General Dorward says there will undoubtedly be war unless Russia evacuates Manchuria according to terms of the agreement which the Anglo-Japanese agreement forced that country to make with China. He believes, however, that Russia will go after seeing that Japan will not submit to her remaining. If Manchuria is not evacuated, however, and Japanese correspondents at Peking say

there are no signs of withdrawal, although the time for retirement is approaching, it means war. Japan will fight, there is no doubt of that, if Russia does not go. Both nations are well aware of this and Russia is rapidly strengthening her garrisons of vantage, while Japan is quietly preparing to strike a blow, if necessary. If war comes, the first thing this continent would hear of (the journal we quote from continues, evidently echoing General Dorward) would be the blowing up and destruction of the big Russian railway, for even now there are at points of vantage Japanese engineers who are versed in explosives, ever ready for the signal that war has been declared. The war would have its scene of action on both land and sea, beginning no doubt in naval operations in the Yellow Sea, and concluded on land. Russia has now 80,000 men in the garrisons of Manchuria, and, as is the custom of the country, they will remain as long as they are permitted to. The policy of Russia, says Major-General Dorward, while it may not be admirable from the point of view of the fair-minded, certainly has its advantages. Russia always remains in control of any disputed territory, until by show of arms, it is obliged to recede, and then the back down is graceful and polite but goes no further than necessary, and the Tsar's troops are ever ready to steal back again.

General Dorward said Great Britain has her strongest garrison in North China at Shanhaikwan—the coast terminus of the railway to Peking, there being but 250 men at the Chinese capital. The force at Shanhaikwan will likely be augmented to five regiments probably mostly Indian troops. The Germans have about 800 men, and the French and Japanese about 500 men each. It may be eventually that Britain and Japan will maintain a garrison of troops of both nations, Major-General Fukushima who was in charge of the Japanese force during the North China campaign, being now in London, it is said, making arrangements to this end, among other things.

THE SZECHUEN TROUBLES.

The Chengtu correspondent of the *Sinwenpao* wrote under date 26th July:—

It having been reported that a Boxer rabble of some 10,000 men and boys had assembled at Shibpan, a village about eight miles distant from Chengtu, with headquarters at a Buddhist temple called Lungtanshih, a brigade of troops was at once sent out from this city to disperse the insurgents. Desultory fights took place between the troops and Boxers on the 19th, 20th and 21st July, during which there were quite a number killed and wounded on both sides, but apparently without much success on the part of the troops. At about 3 o'clock on the morning of the 23rd July, the Boxers suddenly made a great bonfire, the flames rising to a great height and illuminating the heavens round about. This was intended to entrap the troops, the Boxers thinking that the former would rush over to put out the supposed conflagration, when it was intended to fall upon them and so capture the modern arms and ammunition of the troops. Luckily Colonel Liu of the artillery commanding the troops, suspecting some such ambush, remained in his camp, preferring to wait until daybreak before moving his men forward. Early that morning the Boxers began to march up towards the troops, who at Colonel Liu's orders first fired a volley of blank cartridges at the enemy, as a warning not to approach too near. The Boxers, seeing no one of their number fall, were overjoyed, deceiving themselves into thinking that this was due to the power of their incantation and charms. Naturally there was great enthusiasm amongst them and another rush forward was made, to be again met by another volley of blank cartridges. Here, decidedly, was another proof of their invulnerability; and when a third volley of blank cartridges was fired the Boxers had got up to within a hundred yards of the troops, confident of making an easy prey of them. Then came the turn of the soldiers; their Mauser magazine rifles were now properly loaded, and by the time three rapidly fired continuous volleys had been sent at the advancing Boxers their ranks were decimated and the survivors were flying in disorder and panic-stricken along the plain.

The Boxers have only ancient muskets amongst them and that only in the proportion of three among every ten men. The city gates of Chêngtu, formerly closed at 8 o'clock every evening, at the first announcement of the recrudescence of Boxers in the vicinity, are now closed at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, while those who enter the city from outside are closely scrutinised by the soldiers guarding the gates. The Boxers are getting daily more numerous, owing to the apathy of the provincial high authorities, whose conduct makes the Boxers think that the officials mostly favour their propaganda against the Christians.

THE TROUBLE IN NORTHERN SIAM.

The *Siam Observer* of the 15th inst. says:—

News from the North still goes to strengthen the impression that the worst of the trouble is already over. It is believed that the Shans about Phrae were disappointed in the hope that the Shans of Chiengmai and of Lakhon Lampang would join them. They found, apparently, that the Chiengmai and Lakhon Shans were not in sympathy with them, and this had a considerable effect in reducing the mischief. Another telegram from Consul Beckett has been received at the British Legation. It comes from Chiengmai, but from its tenor it would seem to have preceded the previous message received, noted yesterday, and the date should probably be the 12th, when Mr. Beckett was leaving Chiengmai for Lakhon. According to this last-received telegram, the Shans appeared either to be dispersing or to have already dispersed, and Mr. Beckett expressed the sanguine opinion, possibly too sanguine, that a large force was not required. The idea that the assistance of British troops from Burmah might be needed scarcely needs contradiction. Under the circumstances it is merely absurd. The Siamese authorities are fully competent to deal with worse troubles than this; and in any case, the Convention of 1893 absolutely prevents either British or French troops from setting foot in the Menam Valley except by mutual consent. It is needless, however, to enlarge upon this point, because no question of foreign assistance arises.

The same paper in its issue of the 13th inst. says:—An important circumstance to be noted to-day is that the dacoits have included some Shan British subjects. There would seem to be no doubt about this fact, for we hear that Mr. Lyle, British Consul at Nan, has gone down to Phrae and has there succeeded in inducing the British subjects in the gang to disperse. This is the first definite intelligence we have noted that British Shans were amongst the dacoits. At the outset there was a vague rumour that dacoits had entered Chiengmai province in small parties disguised as traders, but this was not confirmed. The Shans in question may, of course, have been British subjects residing in Chiengmai province. In any case it is a matter for satisfaction that Mr. Consul Lyle has now persuaded them to go home, and Mr. Lyle deserves to be thanked for this service. It must help to facilitate the restoration of order.

NEWCHWANG.

Newchwang, 15th August.

THE WEATHER.

Rain is badly wanted, for the ponds are dry and the Chinese are now dependent for drinking water on the brackish river. To the west and south-east, as here, the crops of vegetables, grain, and beans are suffering from drought, while further north they are in better condition.

BUSINESS IS DULL;

local prices of exports leave little or no margin for intending shippers, and uncertainty about future supplies compels merchants and mill-owners to replenish their stocks at current rates. Importers also are suffering from over-importation in the spring and the poverty of the country people, owing to the three last troublous years. If rain falls during the next few days, we may expect the usual October revival of trade; if otherwise the outlook is very gloomy.

RUMOURS.

As usual the air is full of rumours, the most truth-like being that the Russians will hand

back the railway and country west of the Liao between the 1st and 14th of October. Our old friend, Ming Taotai, passed on the 6th inst., en route for Moukden; which leads us to put some faith in those who assert that Chinese rule will be restored in this port before the end of the year.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

Messrs. B. ndinel write under date Newchwang, 7th August:—

During the last few days the upper river has risen sufficiently to admit the passage of bean-boats with the result that about 400,000 piculs beans have arrived, and over 250,000 are on the way down. Prices, however, keep wonderfully firm as the mills are buying freely and reports of crop prospects are unfavourable; we quote:—

Beancakes per 10 pieces	...	Tls. 7.9)
Beans .. 3 piculs	...	6.2)
Bean Oil .. picul	...	6.15

The rain has been very partial thus far, and it is feared that the bean-crop will not yield more than five and-a-half, or at most six million piculs, against seven and-a-quarter millions last year.

In addition to the beans arrived and en route, it is believed that about 900,000 piculs old crop and 1,200,000 piculs new crop will be available for export before the winter.

Shipping.—Arrivals to date are 31 per cent. in excess of last year at same date.

Freights will depend on the course of Japan and Southern markets, as it is unlikely that local prices of exports will decline to any great extent.

Vessels in Port—Hoihow, Wenchow, Pronto, Kueilin, Haeting, Chefoo, Chihli, Yeiko, Hokushin, Koyo, Swatow, Nagatu, and Kwanku Maru-Teho.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the *P. & T. Times* of the 10th inst.:—

Formal notice is given that the British Force in China hereafter is to be called the "China Force," instead of the "China Field Force."

Large German military reliefs, numbering well over a thousand men, arrived at Taku on Sunday last in the transport *Pisa*. The vessel returns via Nagasaki and takes home under Major Lidi nearly as many men as she brought out.

Visitors to Tientsin via the Grand Canal have for the past week met large bodies of native troops marching along the banks in the direction of the city. On Sunday and Monday last they were just beyond Tu Lu. The men in reply to questions were very civil, and said they belonged to General Mei's brigade.

During the last week all the native craft going both up stream and down have taken to the new cutting, and there is already a well trodden tow-path. The grapple-dredgers are still working at the upper end of it, but in a few days one or both will be transferred to the lower end of the greater cutting.

The termination of the Provisional Government's administration has been accompanied by much pleasant amenity on all sides, both from official and unofficial classes of Chinese. The city merchants on Monday last in their guild-hall gave a great banquet to the Council and its foreign employees.

During the whole of the week the incoming Chinese officials have been visiting the various bureaus and offices of the T.P.G. and looking closely into existing arrangements. They have been generous in expressing their appreciation of the arrangements made for the sick poor (under Dr. Mesny), the beggar population, the prisoners, &c., and in not a few cases have expressed their wishes to be able to continue the institutions on the present lines.

The latest advices from the three Eastern provinces state that cholera is raging severely in Manchuria. The Russians in their districts are trying to enforce sanitary precautions and treatment, with very much the same result as we had here in Tientsin, the creation of a greater scare than they wish to obviate, and the utter confusion of the labour market. Harbin, the junction of the Vladivostok and Port Arthur branches of the great railway, seems to be very severely hit, and the fright has spread as far as Vladivostok.

In the recent edicts issued by the Empress

Dowager several officials who had been degraded have been reinstated, at the request of the Viceroy Yuan Shikai. Some military officials have had their rank restored to them, as, according to the Viceroy, they had suffered unjustly. Two civil officials, who were on the black list have had their rank restored, and may now be employed again by the government. One of these was *chih hsien* at a place where two French priests were massacred in 1900: this official has been degraded, but has had his name put back on the list of expectant officials.

We believe the somewhat burning question of the quarantine fees between the T. P. G. and the Shipping Companies has been compromised with satisfaction to both parties. The shipping folk objected to paying a Tls. 50 fee for medical inspection without in any way being consulted as to its imposition. It was very evident that the sons of Aesculapius were making hay while the sun shone, but nobody grudged this; the only grievance was making the burden fall on one class. The compromise is, we believe, that till August 15th the shipping companies pay Tls. 25, and after that date \$10 per vessel. The T. P. G. and Chinese administration find the rest.

We have good reason for stating that a telegraphic order reached the B. R. A. one day this week to hand over the railway on the 15th, and that this was countermanded by telegraphic instructions the next day. The Administration has recently been paying much attention to the permanent improvement of the staff regulations, and we think we are not far wrong in saying that it will bequeath to the Chinese a well drafted scheme of co-operative effort in the way of provident benefit, and also one for furlough. It is hoped that the employees will get home for a year on full pay after six years of service, and that at least one fare will be paid on return to China.

We have some reason for suspecting that the present vacillation in Railway affairs is not altogether due to the mere vagary of the British foreign office, but to extraneous considerations. Russia is not in a position to give up the extramural line till mid-autumn, and she must retain the workshops and plant at Shanhaikwan till that time. As the restoration of the intramural line is strictly conditioned by that of these shops, we shall be surprised if the British carry out their transfer before the second week in October.

The General and Commanding officers have addressed the Council of the T. P. G. a despatch highly eulogistic of their administration of the City. It recapitulates in admirable terms the work of the T.P.G. and staff, and concludes:—"You have reason to be proud of these results, and we beg to convey to you our warmest congratulations thereon."

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE HONGKONG REGIMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 22nd August, 1902.

SIR,—It appears that there is no longer any doubt that the Hongkong Regiment is to return to India early next month, to be disbanded. This being the case, I think it would reflect very gravely on the hospitality of the Colony if we allowed our own Regiment to leave us without a very hearty farewell from the community in general. The Regiment apart from its being one of the finest native Regiments in existence is the only Mahomedan Regiment in the British Army and was especially raised for the protection of this Colony. I would suggest that the officers of the Regiment be invited to a public banquet given by the community in general, and hope that some influential residents will take the matter in hand and form themselves into a committee so that the show, if it comes off, may be run in such a manner as to reflect credit on the Colony that has had the honour to possess such a fine Regiment. With apologies for encroaching on the space of your valuable paper.—Yours, etc.,

CITIZEN.

A PASSENGER'S COMPLAINT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong Hotel, 20th August.

SIR,—I should feel much obliged by your inserting, in the interest of the travelling public, the following account of my voyage from Bombay to this port in the Austrian Lloyd s.s. *Nippon*, which arrived here last night via Colombo, Penang, and Singapore.

The *Nippon*, a fine large steamer of 8,000 tons, is now on her maiden voyage from Europe to Japan; it is a cargo-boat with so-called single-class accommodation for passengers, which really means second-class, her cabins accommodating 20 persons.

From Bombay to Colombo I was the only passenger, and felt on the whole very satisfied with the ship, its accommodation, and quietness. At this first halting-place, our passenger list was increased by an English lady with her baby and ayah, bound for Penang in the saloon and some European and native deck-passengers. These left us on arrival in Penang, when a Chinese lady with baby and ayah took the place of her paleface sister besides a couple of hundred of Chinese deck-passengers. But the latter all remained on the afterpart of the ship, and left me the forepart for promenading. We left Bombay on the 29th July, and arrived on the 10th inst. at Singapore, from which port my trials commenced. We were to leave Singapore on the morning of the 14th inst., and having been out to dinner the night previous, I did not come on board till late at night. I went straight to my cabin downstairs, where a veritable pandemonium reigned. The passages were filled up with boxes and cases of every description, while a savage and sweating horde of Mongolians was hurrying to and fro amidst the most frightful din and uproar, carrying ever more baskets and boxes, and all the paraphernalia of Chinese travellers. The cabin opposite mine was occupied by a Japanese gentleman and two ladies, who all through the voyage conducted themselves as such. But from some of the other cabins the most unearthly sounds and noises emanated; shrill yells from the Chinese babies and all sorts of throat-noises from the men! With the help of the chief officer, a certain amount of quiet and peace was restored; but he informed me that they were cabin-passengers, and that he had no power to interfere too much with them. With a few interruptions the noise lasted the whole night, and when I woke up after a bad night we were already under way. It did not take long to transform the passenger accommodation, hitherto looking like the abode of "white men," into a veritable pigsty. The addition of a dozen Chinese cabin-passengers, including children, with all their servants and hangers on, made our quarters resemble a Chinese back slum. As the Chinese had their food brought to them by the Chinese cook, there was a continual carrying down of great quantities of rice, accompanied by large trays of the most evil-smelling messes and unholy stews which it is possible to imagine; while the intervals of meal-times were occupied by the consumption of fruits and sweets, and with the refuse of the same the floor was littered.

The bathrooms and lavatories were used for the most disgusting and ludicrous purposes, until one of each of these were exclusively reserved for the use of myself and the Japanese. The female portion of the Chinese passengers never stirred from the accommodation downstairs, neither did the babies; while the male and female servants remained there also most of the day and night, sleeping either on sofas or deckchairs in the passages, carrying with them, from their occasional visits to their friends on deck, all the dirt and filth inseparable from hundreds of cooped-up Chinese. The stench of all these unwashed barbarians, coupled with the smells of Chinese food, and the opium fumes emanating from some of the cabins, became at last in this badly ventilated locality well-nigh unbearable. The chief officer—who on board these steamers is in charge of the passengers—did his best to improve matters, but what can one do against the passive resistance of the heathen Chinese? That officer has other duties; besides, with 700 Chinese coolies on board, one is perforce compelled to compromise, and if the Company puts the passengers on

board, it is not for the ship's officers to remove them from the accommodation for which they have paid, but which, I believe, under the circumstances in question, would have been done by another Company.

It is the Austrian Lloyd Co. which is to blame here, and I consider it nothing short but scandalous, that this Company, under contract with the Imperial Government of Austria, from which it receives a heavy subsidy, should subject its passengers to herd with coolies, and subject them to surroundings on board its steamers which could not be worse: on a coolie-carrying boat in the coast trade. It is in my opinion grossly unfair that the Company should advertise, without any comment, that she has accommodation for passengers, without mentioning that she takes Chinese coolies; or worse, also as such; if they had informed me beforehand of what I had to expect in this regard I could have no cause for complaint of course; but when I take passage with an European S.S. Co., and a mail steamship to boot, I have a right to expect treatment on board as an European, and not to be subjected to such disgraceful surroundings as was the case on board the *Nippon*. Paragraph 3, of the "Internal Regulations" displayed in a conspicuous place in the sleeping accommodation downstairs, says:—"It is not allowed to lie down with boots or shoes, either on the sofas or the beds; neither is it allowed to keep luggage in the saloon to embarrass the private cabins, or to spoil the books, furniture, and utensils of the ship." But I wonder whether it is allowed for unwashed Mongols to lie down with their dirty feet, and perhaps dirtier clothes, on the plush covering of the ship's sofas? I am almost certain that the damage done to the furniture and utensils of the ship by the *Nippon's* Chinese cabin-passengers (?) will not balance the \$25 a head passage-money. In the present instance, however, the Company is condemned out of its own mouth I think, for paragraph 12 of the Internal Regulations says:—"Passengers having a right to be treated like persons of education will no doubt conform themselves to the rules of good society by respecting their fellow travellers," etc. If the Austrian Lloyd considers it consistent with this right of their passengers, and with the rules of good society, that her Chinese passengers continually offend the sense of decency and propriety of their European fellow-passengers by a disregard for the first rudiments of civilisation, then I have nothing more to say, except that the Internal Regulations should be amended to this effect, in order to avoid misconception.—Yours, etc.,

J. N. KALFF.

P. S.—Since writing the foregoing, I received the following treatment at the hands of the Austrian Lloyd S.S. Company. As the *Nippon* was to have no more Chinese passengers on her voyage from this port to Yokohama, I decided to continue my journey in her. She was duly advertised to sail on the 22nd inst., but there was on the following day not the slightest evidence that she would leave Kowloon Wharf either that day or the next. The ship's officers would not commit themselves by naming day and hour of departure, and referred me to the agents. By them I was informed on Saturday that she would not sail till Monday, and if I was passing there during the morning of that day they might be able to give me some information about the sailing time. I mentioned to the agent that I intended to pass the Sunday with some friends in the Peak, but that I wished to be guaranteed against being left behind. No, there was no danger of that coming to pass, and I was assured that I could safely spend the day in the Peak, which I accordingly did. I took the 10.30 p.m. ferry on Sunday night, but found on arrival at Kowloon, no *Nippon*. Thinking she had gone into the stream, I returned to Hongkong, and took a sampan, whose skipper assured me confidently that "Me savvy *Nippon*—big ship, four masts." After an hour's unsuccessful search in the roadstead, I returned to shore, where I roused up the Chinese stevedore of the Company, from whom I learned that "*Nippon* gone away fo' o'clock." On arriving at the Company's office on Monday morning, I was met by a hearty laugh from the agent, who considered the whole thing evidently as a joke, and informed me that such things would happen; that he had had no idea

on Saturday the ship would be ready so soon; that they were really not responsible, as these ships were not properly speaking passenger-boats, etc., etc., but that he would return me the passage-money, and that I would even that day find another steamer.

Here I had been specially waiting for this ship, and at the eleventh hour was simply left in the lurch by the responsible representative of the Company, who was aware of the name and residence of the friends I was passing the Sunday with at the Peak. But all my representations that my ticket implied a contract which they could not break at will, and in such an unjustifiable and unbusinesslike way, met with a *non possumus* from even the head of the house, who coolly stated that on principle he refused to accede to my request, sir, to send me to my place of destination at the Company's expense; no, all he could do was to refund me my passage-money! Now, sir, what is one to do in such a cynical illustration of the right of the strongest?

J. N. K.

[We omit some portions of our correspondent's letter, partly from reasons of space.—Ed. D.P.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 27th August.

SIR,—We shall be obliged by your inserting a few remarks, called for by Mr. Kalff's ventilation of his grievances in this morning's issue.

Mr. Kalff has a long tale of woe and tribulations to tell, but somehow he did not find room to make it clear that he only travelled second-class and never was promised anything better. He objects to the presence of Chinese in the cabins but might he not have met with them in the first-class saloon of any mail steamer?

Some may have been moved by reading Mr. Kalff's new trials in Hongkong. It is an awkward thing, no doubt, to find out at 11 p.m. that one's ship has given one the slip. We felt sorry for Mr. K.'s disappointment; however, if a man is told that the ship he is counting with, will leave as soon as discharged, he will look out for himself. Extraordinary enough, Mr. K. was on board the *Nippon* four hours before she left, when it was evident that the ship was as good as ready for sea but it did not strike him to ask and to trouble himself about it. Steamer agents who look for belated passengers at their hotel to warn them, may well be said to have done their due. If wrong information is left at the hotel, passengers must bear the consequences.—Yours, etc.,

SANDER, WIELER & CO.,
Agents, The Austrian Lloyd's
Steam Navigation Co.

NAVAL WASTE AND JERRY-BUILDINGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 25th August.

SIR,—To most people there may appear no significance in this heading, but there is. Whenever anything larger than a torpedo-boat enters the harbour the Naval people consider it necessary to fire off big guns and waste a lot of powder, with the result that houses anywhere in the line of fire are caused to vibrate at every explosion. The mortar in most buildings is so bad that no competent building authority would sanction its use, and instead of being allowed to harden in the work it is subject to these vibrations which gradually but surely, "as drops of water wear away stone," rob it of all adhesion and so weaken it that a driving rain penetrates the joints and saturates the heart of the wall to such an extent that any extraordinary weight or wind pressure may cause a collapse. Thus one department allows jerry-buildings to go up and the other helps the elements to knock them down. As a suggestion:—Better and stricter supervision by both the architects in charge and the government building authorities, and until the existing rotten buildings are replaced that a Naval order be issued that small guns and light charges be used.—Yours, etc.,

B.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 25th August.

SIR,—Non-shareholders are doubtless tired of seeing letters in the newspapers on this subject, but as the points at issue are of vital interest to shareholders they had better be well threshed out at once, and we must claim indulgence from those not concerned.

In making enquiries and investigating the statements published it is inadvisable to go too much into detail; to find out things by pumping those competent to give accurate information, without their knowledge that it is intended for publication, is too mean, and to ask point blank for particulars of faults and failures is not diplomatic; therefore mere assertions must suffice, and those whom the caps fit will try them on.

In an evening contemporary "A Shareholder" considers the expenditure too heavy; quite so. Last February's report gives the office and drawing office expenses at \$62,995.86 for the half-year, and for the last half-year it is two thousand dollars less: at home it is a very large establishment indeed which requires £9.00 per month for office and salaries alone; some economy might be effected here, the drawing office especially ought to be in the vicinity of the workshops and moulding-loft and not an extravagant rent paid for its being in the city.

It also would be advisable to introduce a leaven of scientific or technical men on to the Board; business men undoubtedly have the opportunity of putting work our way, but there are one or two who never would be missed, and these some of the "smartest" too.

I sincerely hope the construction of the new river steamer will prove a profitable job. The price is a fair one and with good management it should pay. The Directors are discreetly silent about some Admiralty craft which the Dock Co. built for Weihaiwei.

Whether the executive staff is too large or not, I am not competent to judge; it is natural that "one of us" should take up cudgels on their behalf, but it is quite impossible to avoid treading on corns when people have big feet; the staff have certainly nothing to do with the troubles, but when questions of economy are brought forward it must touch somebody. We are told that there is a lack of system; this must be due to faulty management, want of adaptability to local conditions is no doubt at the root of it, and it is not on the subordinates entirely that this want is observable.

There is "something rotten in the State of Denmark" when ships, here for repairs, are allowed to leave the port and get them done elsewhere. The *Munchen* is mentioned: last month a small steamer which was moored at Kowloon about three weeks eventually went to Shanghai and had the general overhaul done there; the first estimate was exorbitant and more than the value of the steamer, it was subsequently reduced to less than one third, and yet the work was not done locally. Who is to blame for these blunders? there must be something in what "Wheels Within Wheels" says about the incompetence of some of the Company's valuers: Are we to believe that the plague alone is responsible for the American fleet deserting this port for docking and repairing purposes? With all our magnificent plant and well equipped shops of which we are continually boasting, how is it that Shanghai continually gets ahead of us?

"Amendment" writes very much to the point. After hearing the counterblast hurled at the meeting, my previous half-formed opinion that shareholders in general were usually regarded by directors as merely the necessary implements for putting through what they had previously decided upon, and that any show of difference of opinion was presumption, was strongly confirmed.

The three months' grace will perhaps prevent the necessity of the overdraft for the dividend: docking and ship-repairing is a business of prompt payment and short credit, and I hope the expenditure in future will be regulated to avoid the overdraft as much as possible and so save interest. Not knowing the inner workings of course I cannot express an opinion, but it seems to me that this overdraft need not have been a necessity in the past, whatever it may be now.—Yours, etc., EXTRA DOLLAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 28th August.

SIR,—In all the correspondence which has appeared in the public Press bearing on the above subject, I failed to notice any mention of an incident that occurred at the general meeting of shareholders. Although perhaps trivial in itself, the incident is of some importance when taken with the rest of the proceedings. On rising to second the adoption of the report and accounts, the Hon. C. S. Sharp is reported to have said: "I have heard some reports of clamours for a larger dividend, but I cannot think that such can have come from any shareholders having the permanent interests of the Company at heart." &c. In other words, he meant to say those voting for a larger dividend—among whom, it may once more be repeated, were three members of the Board—were only temporary holders of the stocks and consequently mere speculators, whose vote should carry no weight. Now, the right of every shareholder, no matter how small his interest, to give free expression to his views is indisputable. But if any one shareholder takes it upon himself to impugn the *bona-fides* of his fellow shareholders, and attributes other than fair motives to them in the exercise of their unchallengeable rights, such shareholder lays himself open to what I may be permitted to term counter criticism. As I said above, the right of a shareholder in no way depends on the size of his holdings, but it is a question of taste whether a small shareholder should make himself prominent in the deliberations of a body of his fellow shareholders as a large holder might. Mr. Sharp will excuse me, I hope, when I say that, with the insignificant interest he represents, having been picked out as the most fit person present to second the adoption of the report and accounts, might have confined himself to patting on the back those who compelled his admiration in their drawing up of a report which a chancellor of the exchequer may well envy, and to other general remarks, without going to the length of stigmatising shareholders having large and permanent interests in the Company as mere gamblers of no consequence. Mr. Sharp possesses, through his great tact and unflinching courtesy, a very wide popularity in this Colony, which, though aspired to by many, only a very few can attain, and it seems a pity that he should have been prevailed upon to give utterance to the above uncalled for remarks.—Yours, etc.,

"TASTE."

THE HONGKONG HOTEL CO., LD.

A meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held at the Hongkong Hotel on the 27th inst. Mr. E. Osborne presided, and the others present were Messrs. R. C. Wilcox, W. H. Potts (directors), P. C. Potts, M. S. Northcote, W. A. Cruickshank, F. Maitland, Captain W. C. Clarke, Captain F. D. Goddard, Ho Fok, Lo Cheung Shiu, and C. Mooney (secretary). The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, The report and accounts I will, with your permission, take as read. The profits for the half-year were slightly under those of the corresponding period last year, the decrease being due not so much to diminution of business as to increased cost of wines and stores through the fall in exchange; but notwithstanding this the results of the working will, I think, give satisfaction, and believing such to be the case I need make no further comment on the accounts. Some eight months ago you approved of a proposal to build on the reclamation and at the same time gave the Board authority to vary the scheme if thought fit, the one we submitted being somewhat modest, involving an expenditure of about \$51,000. Subsequent to the meeting at which this proposal was approved, an offer was made to us for leasing a five-storeyed permanent building costing some \$400,000, and this offer we have accepted, because the net results to the Hotel Company are an assured income equal to if not larger than would have been earned by the first scheme, whilst in place of a cheap one-storeyed building which would have had to be demolished in ten years' time we shall possess a substantial permanent structure which, so long as the Colony prospers, cannot fail to command good rentals. Extensive alter-

tations are being made on the first floor of the old building, whereby we shall obtain a fine suite of retiring and reception rooms, comprising a large music and sitting room, reading room, smoking room, two billiard rooms and toilet room, all of them greatly needed and the want of which has been frequently commented on and very much felt, especially during the busy season. The changes deprive us of some dozen bed-rooms, which loss will of course reduce the earnings, but we feel that we cannot longer continue to pose as a first class hotel without improved accommodation of this nature, and we think, or at least hope, the loss of revenue will be made up in other directions consequent upon the increased comfort which these rooms will afford to visitors staying in the Hotel. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any question that any shareholders may wish to put.

There were no questions, and on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. CRUICKSHANK, the report and accounts, as presented, were adopted and passed.

The confirmation of the appointment of Mr. W. H. Potts as director and the re-election of Mr. E. Osborne were agreed to, on the motion of Mr. Ho Fook, seconded by Captain CLARK.

Mr. P. C. POTTS proposed the re-election as auditors of Messrs. H. U. Jeffries and A. R. Lowe, and the motion, having been seconded by Captain GODDARD, was agreed to unanimously. This was all the business.

SUPREME COURT.

Wednesday, 27th August.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

HANSEN V. MARTY.

This was a re-hearing of the case in which H. C. Hansen, lately third engineer on the s.s. *Hongkong*, sued A. R. Marty for \$531, being wages and board alleged to be due to plaintiff in lieu of notice. Mr. E. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. P. W. Goldring, of Messrs. Deacon & Hastings, solicitors, for the defendant.

Captain Pannier of the s.s. *Hongkong* gave evidence that the third engineer (the plaintiff) had been discharged as there was an arrangement, by the law of France, that made it compulsory to employ Frenchmen when they were available. If they were not available they might employ foreigners other than Frenchmen.

Mr. Grist contended that if the evidence as to the French articles was to be brought in he was entitled to an adjournment so that a translation might be procured. They were trying to shuffle out of their agreement by French law and to establish that they were not bound by contract and that four months' notice was not necessary.

The case was accordingly adjourned.

ALEXANDER V. PUNCHARD LOWTHER & CO.

This was a writ to recover the sum of \$543, being the sum of \$348 of salary payable by the defendants to the plaintiff for work as a marine engineer for the defendants from the 1st to the 31st May and \$200 in respect of quarters from 16th May to 3rd July. Mr. J. S. Hariton, solicitor, appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Grist, solicitor, for the defendants.

C. W. Alexander stated in his evidence that he applied in person to Messrs. Punchard Lowther & Co. for the position of a foreman-fitter previous to May 13th, when he received a letter offering him the position which later on the plaintiff accepted on certain conditions, one of which was that he should be provided with quarters. In due course the plaintiff was employed and, the quarters not being ready, the plaintiff temporarily resided outside. Later on the plaintiff found out that in his quarters he would have to share a room with another man. He said to Mr. Kidd to whom he was subordinate, that in all the jobs he had been in in the East he had had a room to himself. Subsequently the plaintiff was informed that he would have to take his chance with the rest of the employees. He however objected to live in a room with others. Subsequently he received a month's

notice to quit, no reasons being stated. When he came to leave a discussion arose regarding outside expenses defendants offering \$20 and subsequently \$25 for over two months. He did not know that the quarters were ready on the 6th July. His ricksha expenses in connection with his work amounted to \$50 over the time that he lived outside. The balance was for quarters; he stayed in Morrison Hill Road.

His Lordship thought the question of ricksha expenses might be put aside. It was absurd; he had never heard of such a thing here.

Mr. Harston stated that if the plaintiff had not taken a ricksha he would not have been able to go on with his work. It was to save his employers' time that he took a ricksha.

Cross-examined—His expenses were \$80 a month. During the time he was with the firm he lived at 21, Morrison Hill Road. The house was furnished. For his board and lodging he actually paid \$65 a month. He had a room to himself. He did not know the rent of any of the houses in Morrison Hill Road. He had never occupied a furnished room in Hongkong except in Kowloon Dock, where he was allowed a house free. When he saw Mr. Kidd previous to entering the employment of the firm Mr. Kidd stated that he would make an exception in his case in the way of giving him a room to himself.

Re-examined—He had asked Mr. Williams if the quarters were ready but had declined to occupy them when he found that he had to share his room with another man.

C. F. Ocken deposed that a fair allowance for an unfurnished room for a man in plaintiff's position would be \$40; for a furnished room \$60.

Cross-examined—He had been in Hongkong since 1882 and lived in Knutsford Terraces. His house was let at \$35 a month, including taxes, unfurnished. The houses there had four rooms. These same houses were let at \$110 although he was not paying that rent. He had not lived anywhere on the Hongkong side except the Hotel.

D. Baldwin, foreman fitter in Kowloon Dock, stated that when he joined the Company they were not able to provide quarters for him and he stayed at Connaught House, where the bill came to \$80 a month for his room and \$120 a month for board and lodging. He would certainly allow the plaintiff \$60 for a furnished room. He had lived in Morrison Hill Road about three years ago. He paid for his house there \$65 a month, including taxes. That was in the same row that the plaintiff resided in. It had four rooms. He considered that if at the present time he got board and lodging for \$90 a month he would be well off.

R. M. Boyd, marine engineer stated that he was presently employed by a Chinese firm. he had been formerly in the Scottish Oriental. You could not get a room unfurnished for less than \$3 a day. For a man in Mr. Alexander's position he would say that \$25 was a fair allowance for an unfurnished room. You could not get a decent furnished room for less than \$80 a month.

Cross-examined—He had an unfurnished room in Wanohai for which he paid \$21 a month.

Mr. Harston said that that completed his evidence.

Mr. Grist, in opening his case, stated that the quarters were ready on 6th July and the plaintiff could have gone into them then but chose to do otherwise. For one and three-quarters months they offered an allowance of \$20 a month which the plaintiff refused to accept.

W. Kidd, of Messrs. Punchard, Lowther & Co., deposed that he did not when he engaged the plaintiff make any arrangement that he should have a house to himself. The plaintiff made an objection against going into a house with another and witness said he would be treated exactly the same as the rest of the firm's employees who occupied these quarters. Plaintiff asked for a room for himself. Witness told him that he could not promise him that but that he would be treated exactly as the other employees were. Plaintiff got a salary of £30 a month. The other European employees got from £25 to £30 a month, so that plaintiff was not asked to go into quarters with navvies. The quarters were ready and were occupied on 6th July; they were open to plaintiff on that date.

Cross-examined—He did not induce plaintiff to believe that he would have a room to himself; he simply told him that he would be treated the same as the other employees who were going into these quarters. Plaintiff asked him if he might have a room to himself in the new quarters, which were then in course of erection. He replied that he would be treated like the others. He did not say that plaintiff would have a room to himself. He thought that Mr. Alexander was not due any distinction from the others, except the leading foreman. It was unreasonable for the plaintiff to ask for a room for himself. He considered \$35, the sum offered, a fair amount in lieu of quarters. Mr. Alexander was passing the quarters every day and meeting the other employees so that there could be no doubt, he presumed, that Mr. Alexander was aware of the fact that the premises were ready for occupation. He was not aware that the Dock Company allowed Mr. Alexander a room to himself. The present quarters were furnished and they charged the occupants \$10 for the furniture.

T. Spafford, store-keeper with Messrs. Punchard, Lowther & Co., deposed that he lived in St. Francis Street and paid \$30 a month for two rooms on the second floor.

Cross-examined—He could get rooms for the same amount in Queen's Road East.

B. Clarke stated in evidence that he had occupied two rooms in St. Francis Street at \$34 a month. At present he was living in rooms which cost \$8 a month. His salary was from \$360 to \$400 a month.

The solicitors on each side having addressed the Court,

His Lordship said that with regard to the first part of the claim—that for ricksha hire—he had already given his opinion upon it. He had never heard of such a thing. If that were allowed, a man might go and live at Stanley and charge his employer with boat-hire, or something of that kind. He had never heard of a ricksha being allowed in a case like this. That was \$50 off the claim. With regard to the room, he was perfectly clear that the allowance was for an unfurnished room. He was certain that at Morrison Hill one could get a room for \$2 a month unfurnished. Therefore he did not see that there was any room for the plaintiff's claim for more than what had been offered. Judgment would be for the defendants. Plaintiff would get his costs up till the date of payment into Court; defendants would get their costs after the date of payment.

The Court rose.

Thursday, 28th August.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THEIR HONOURS W. MEIGH
GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND A. G.
WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

CHAN CHI AND OTHERS v. WILLIAM MURISON.

In these two cases Chan Chi, Li Sung Chung, and Lai Yiu appealed against the judgment of the Police Magistrate, delivered on 4th July, by which they were convicted of keeping a gaming-house and sentenced to heavy penalties, the ground of appeal being that the conviction was erroneous and the evidence did not warrant a conviction. When the cases were originally called, Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. G. K. H. Brutton, solicitor), appeared for the two first appellants; Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor), for the third defendant; and the Hon. Sir Henry S. Berkeley, Attorney-General (instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys, Crown Solicitor), appeared for the respondent. The cases had been adjourned to allow the notices of motion to be put in proper form. There was no appearance, however, on the part of the appellants.

The Puisse Judge—I see you have got the Court to yourself, Mr. Attorney.

The Attorney-General—Yes; I understand that my learned friends' absence is due to the fact that they do not intend to appear.

The Puisse Judge—But I think they ought to appear.

The Attorney-General—I understand that Mr. Slade is not well.

The Puisse Judge—But surely some notification should be given to the Court.

The Attorney-General—Some one should be here, most decidedly. No one appearing, I ask that this appeal be dismissed with costs.

The Chief Justice—The case was fixed for a day to suit the parties, and as no one appears the appeals must accordingly be dismissed.

The Attorney-General—In any case, your Lordship, I understand that Mr. Sharp did not intend to appear. Two letters, dated to-day, have been received by the Crown Solicitor.

The Puisse Judge—I think it is only courtesy to the Court that they should be here. They should be here by themselves or else by a solicitor.

The Chief Justice—This was the day set down for the hearing of the cases. No one appears in support of the appeals and the learned Attorney General appears for the respondent and asks that these appeals be dismissed with costs. The appeals are accordingly dismissed with costs. The result will be that the decision of the Magistrate in these cases will be upheld.

The Puisse Judge concurred.

The Court rose.

REVIEWS.

The French in Tonkin and South China. By ALFRED CUNNINGHAM. *Hongkong Daily Press*, Hongkong, and 131, Fleet Street, London.

THIS little work, the fruit of a recent visit to Kwanchauwan and Tonkin, supplies a good deal of up-to-date information which cannot fail to prove both interesting and valuable at the present moment, more especially in view of the forthcoming Exposition to be opened at Hanoi in November next. Concerning this very laudable enterprise a chapter is devoted to giving details of the show as it is to be, with sundry illustrations of the buildings. There are sketchy but pleasant descriptions of Haiphong and Hanoi, showing graphically the rapid improvements effected in both towns until, at the present time, the capital of Tonkin will, according to the author, compare not unfavourably with any city in the Far East. A full account is given of the system of railways inaugurated by M. Doumer, the recent energetic Governor-General of Indo-China, and those in working order are described, and illustrations of them and of the great bridge across the Red River at Hanoi are included. This bridge is 1,680 metres (5,505 feet) in length, one of the longest bridges in the world. It is built of steel on columns of dressed Tonkin stone. These stone columns, 14 metres high, are built up on metal cylindrical piles, 30 metres deep, which are filled with cement! About 5,000 tons of steel were used in the structure, which consumed 80 tons of paint for its protection. The bridge cost 6,000,000 francs, and is certainly a monument of French energy and enterprise. It was opened to traffic in April last. The author, after reviewing the lines in progress or in prospect in French territory, adds that two lines are projected from Kwanchauwan, to reach the Sikiang river; one at Wuchow, and the other to connect at Nanning-fu with the line from Hanoi and Langson. He draws a contrast between the enterprise of the French Government, which is sparing neither efforts nor money to tap the trade of South China through its railways, and the feeble efforts made by British officials to check Chinese obstruction to British navigation on the West River and the belated talk of a railway between Kowloon and Canton. While we talk, the French act; yet we are very ready to accuse Frenchmen of want of enterprise! It is time that their enterprise takes a different form, but we might well learn some useful lessons even from French efforts at colonisation in the Orient. The opening chapter is devoted to a description of the new Colony of Kwanchauwan, from which it would seem that the French have not been idle there, for they have created a sanitarium if nothing else. Some statistics of trade are given for the year 1901, which show that there are some imports. These do not, however, appear to include opium, although we know as a matter of fact that considerable shipments are made from Hongkong, a good deal of which no doubt

crosses the border into Chinese territory without payment of duty.

The book is well printed, and the illustrations are numerous and well selected though some few are rather imperfectly developed.

The Ball. By ARTHUR S. BAXENDALE. London, Wm. Heinemann. Novelettes de Luxe. The title of Mr. Baxendale's story is from the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam:—

The Ball no question makes of Ayes or Noes, But here and there as strikes the Player goes. So Harry Silcoote, the hero of the tale before us, is the Ball that goes as the Player strikes. He is not, it may be remarked, any more capricious in his movements than a vast number of "heroes" or of real men. Mr. Baxendale, whose name is not unknown in Selangor, opens *The Ball* in the Malay States and then transfers his scene to England. Dwellers in the Far East may therefore take an additional interest in what is, as a whole, a well-written book. One chapter, XI, is superfluous, though brief. Otherwise we can recommend Mr. Baxendale's first effort in fiction (as we take *The Ball* to be) as a thoroughly readable work.

HONGKONG POLO CLUB GYMKHANA.

Under the auspices of the Hongkong Polo Club a successful gymkhana was held on the 23rd inst. on the Polo Ground at Causeway Bay. The weather was a trifle warm but otherwise the day was delightful. A large number of spectators were present, both European and Chinese, and the company comprised many ladies. His Excellency Major-General Gascoigne was among the first arrivals. An interesting programme had been arranged, containing seven events. In most cases the events filled well, and competition was keen. For the success of the meeting much of the credit is due Mr. C. H. Ross, the Hon. Secretary, and Major A. B. Hamilton and Mr. G. C. C. Master, who acted as judges. In the course of the afternoon a capital selection of music was played by the band of the 2nd Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Appended are the results:—

No. 1.—LEMON CUTTING.—Open to all comers. Conditions: Cuts 1 and 2 on the right. Points given for pace and style.—1, Captain the Hon. H. W. Trefusis; 2, Mr. Dale. There were many entrants; the two named showed outstanding superiority and got warmly applauded for their respective performances.

No. 2.—LED PONY COMPETITION.—Open (Figure 8 course). Conditions: Ride one Pony and lead another on a figure 8 course on Polo Ground. To be run in heats of not more than 4 competitors in a heat.—1, Mr. Venables. Some very good horsemanship and speed were shown in this competition.

No. 3.—LADIES' NOMINATION, ROSETTES AND BARRELS.—Open to Members of Polo Club only. Conditions: Competitors to be nominated by ladies. Each lady will be presented with a coloured rosette. Corresponding rosettes will be hidden in one or other of several barrels placed in different parts of the ground. Start from flag—ride over hurdle to the barrel of your choice—having found a rosette mount and ride home over hurdle. The lady holding the corresponding rosette to that first brought home to win prize.—1, Mr. Pontifex, for Mrs. Robinson; 2, Mr. A. R. Grieve, for Mrs. Beresford-Ash. The winner had a good deal to spare at the finish.

No. 4.—JUMPING COMPETITION FOR PONIES 14.2 AND UNDER.—Open. Conditions: Over a hurdle with movable top-bar. Three runs each, first over 3ft. 3in., second over 3ft. 6in., and third over 3ft. 9in. bar. In the event of tie, bar to be raised to 4ft.—There were five competing ponies, Hon. F. H. May and Mr. W. Cruickshank riding two each and Mr. Pontifex one. First honours went to Mr. Pontifex after a very keen contest in which some good form was shown.

No. 5.—RUNNING, LEADING AND MOUNTING COMPETITION OVER FOUR HURDLES.—Open. Conditions: Start from flag—dismount—run and lead pony over first hurdle—mount and ride over second—dismount at flag (about 10 yards beyond second hurdle)—run and lead pony over third hurdle—mount and ride home over fourth hurdle.—In this event Mr. Pontifex again proved the victor, coming in first in

splendid style out of a big field. One rider was unfortunate enough to lose his pony when giving it a practice jump over the first hurdle; it refused to jump after him, and as he had let go his hold of the reins, the pony cantered round the end of the hurdle and on to the public road. It was captured, however, in time to let the rider come to the starting-post.

No. 6.—POLO SCURRY OVER FIGURE 8 COURSE. For bona-fide Polo ponies only. Condition: Over a figure 8 course on Polo Ground. A hot race was won by Mr. Cruickshank with nothing to spare.

No. 7.—MAP AND CRACKER COMPETITION.—Open. Conditions: Start from flag—ride to point indicated, where will be found cardboard, pencils, crackers, matches, and instructions. Carry out these instructions and ride home, handing your cardboard to judge at winning post.—This event was carried out in semi-darkness and created a deal of amusement. The first competitor to get his crackers set agoing was Mr. A. R. Grieve, and in the nature of things the others had a hard time holding on to their ponies under the blaze and splinter of the fireworks, as they tried to carry out their own conditions. Mr. Grieve won easily.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR AUGUST.

The following scores were returned:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.			
Capt. R. C. Morris, R.A....	98	— 18	= 80
Mr. C. H. P. Hay.....	97	— 15	= 85
Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	86	— 1	= 82
Mr. H. W. Slade	103	— 18	= 85
Mr. E. J. Grist.....	93	— 5	= 83

19 entries.

POOL.			
Mr. J. E. Lee	104	— 25	= 79
Capt. R. C. Morris, R.A. ...	98	— 18	= 80
Mr. C. M. G. Burnie	82	— 1	= 81
Mr. C. H. P. Hay.....	97	— 15	= 82
Mr. E. J. Grist.....	93	— 5	= 83

22 entries.

HONGKONG CHESS CLUB.

The following moves have been recorded in the remaining game by cable between Hongkong and Singapore during the past fortnight:—

White. (Hongkong).	Black. (Singapore).
32 R—Q 3	Q—Kt 5
33 K R—Q sq	P—B 4
34 Kt—K 2	R t. R
35 B t. R	P—B 5
36 B—B 2	R t. R ch
37 R t. R	Q—K 8 ch
38 Q—B sq	Q—Q 7
39 Kt—Kt 3	Q t. P
40 Kt—R 5	Q—Q 7
41 Kt t. Kt	

PRAISE FOR H.M.S. "OCEAN."

The *Naval and Military Record* writes:—

Admiral Sir E. H. Seymour's handsome gift of a challenge shield to be held by the best gunnery ship on the China station is already proving a sound patriotic investment, as it has set up such a spirit of emulation and rivalry that in 1902 the *Terrible* has been out-scored by the *Ocean*, which now becomes the crack gunnery ship of the fleet. From a strictly service point of view it is perhaps well that the *Ocean* has wrested the trophy from the *Terrible*, for when men reflected that it was Captain Percy Scott, in the *Scylla*, who brought good shooting to the front in 1899, and kept it to the front in 1900 and 1901 in the *Terrible*, the sceptics sniffed and even doubted the honesty of the umpires who were interested in keeping down those tall scores as much as possible. But the success of the *Ocean* has shifted the scene, and, while confounding the sceptics, has demonstrated that good shooting can be attained by every ship if each commanding officer is insistent. The *Ocean* was commissioned in 1900 by Captain (now Rear-Admiral) the Hon. G. A. Curzon-Howe, a lineal descendant of the great Lord Howe, and in that year the 6-inch guns made only 43 hits. From this starting point the captain determined to work up his men to beat the *Terrible*, which stood alone as the crack gunnery ship of the navy. In 1901 the 6-inch guns made 64 hits;

and just when the crew were on the high road to excellence the captain was promoted, and was succeeded by Captain R. W. White, who, fortunately, was no less enthusiastic than his predecessor. The result is that the *Ocean* has made 117 hits from the same number of guns, and therefore in the same time as the *Terrible's* 102 hits in 1901. Much of the credit for this high scoring is unquestionably due to Commander J. C. Ley, her first, and Lieut. Norman Craig, her present gunnery lieutenant who have spared no pains to drill and instruct the crew.

Nor is it only with the 6-inch gun that the *Ocean* has beaten all records, for she was equally successful with the 12-inch gun, which made 17 hits for 25 rounds, an unprecedented achievement. In 1901 the *Terrible's* 6.2-inch guns made 63 per cent. of hits to rounds fired, and her 6-inch guns 89 per cent.; in 1902 the *Ocean's* 12-inch guns made 68 per cent. of hits to rounds fired, and her 6-inch guns 71 per cent., but owing to the *Ocean's* more rapid fire she made 4.87 hits per gun per minute against the *Terrible's* score of 4.25 in 1901. The brilliance of the *Ocean's* achievement will be seen when it is remembered that the average of the fleet in 1901 was 1.8. A point to bear in mind in weighing the importance of these figures is that the target used on the China station is only half the size of that allowed by the regulations, and therefore the number of hits on the target represents probably less than the number of hits that would be made on an enemy in action. Now, let us take four ships at random, three from the Channel and one from the Mediterranean squadron, as it is commonly supposed that in the event of war these would be the first squadrons called upon to fight. In 1901 the forty-six 6-inch guns of the *Magnificent*, *Prince George*, *Hannibal*, and *Renown* fired 340 rounds, and made in all 111 hits, whereas the twelve guns of the *Ocean*, in 173 rounds, made 117 hits. She is thus not only the most rapid-firing but the hardest hitting ship in the service, and probably in the world. Nor can it be said that she owes much to mechanical aid, for although the "dotter" has been adopted by the Admiralty it has not been issued on the China station, and the one used by the *Scylla* in the Mediterranean, in 1899, was borrowed by the *Ocean* from the *Terrible*. To show the persistent efforts made by the champion ship to secure the lead it may be mentioned that while the average hits to rounds fired by the 12-inch gun was in 1901 34 per cent., in 1902 the *Ocean* made 68 per cent., or exactly double, whereas in 1901 she was still the leading ship, with 58 per cent.

While the success of the *Ocean* at once dispels the suspicions of the sceptics, about which we shall, doubtless, hear no more, it will afford the most intense gratification to the marine to learn that the champion shot of the world belongs to their corps, Gunner F. Skein, R.M.A., having completely broken the record established by Petty Officer Grounds; for while Grounds made eight hits for eight rounds in one minute, Skein of the *Ocean* made nine hits for nine rounds in the same time. Hero worship is a vital force in the marines, and any man may envy the reception that will be given to Skein on his return to Eastney Barracks. Nor is our satisfaction with the lustre that has been shed upon the marines lessened by the fact that Skein's comrade behind the gun was Gunner Bromfield, of his own corps; and between them these two men fired fifteen rounds and made fourteen hits. The second best gun was manned by First Class Petty Officer C. Harvey and Able Seaman J. Cousins, who fired seventeen rounds, and also made fourteen hits. A correspondent on the *Ocean*, writing from Weihaiwei, and who supplies the above facts, states that the quick loading was due to constant exercise with Captain Scott's loading "teacher," while the success of the ship generally is due to their following the *Terrible's* example, and using the same mechanical appliances. Had Petty Officer Grounds survived there is no doubt he would have been made a warrant officer, and his comrades of that class would have intuitively known with what honour to receive him in their ranks. To-day the champion shot is a plain gunner drawing the modest pay of one shilling and fivepence farthing a day, but from to-day he is a marked man, and he alone can retard his rapid advancement.

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN THE PHILIPPINES.

"The emblem of Liberty, Justice and Right," exclaims *Manila Times*, "that now floats over the Philippine Archipelago, that flag that was so rudely tattered and torn and stained with blood to eradicate slavery in the homeland, will not smile on the traffic in human flesh and blood in the Philippines. Slavery in these islands will not be tolerated, even though condoned by ancient religion, law and custom. The authorities at Washington have decided that the traffic in human lives in these islands must cease. That neither slavery, nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist in this Archipelago. Such is the declaration of the Lodge Bill, passed at the recent session of the United States Congress, and now proclaimed by the Governor of the Philippine Islands as the organic law of the land."

Less ecstatically our contemporary goes on to comment:—"A communication has been received from Washington, directed to the military authorities in general and the Commanding General of the Moro country in particular, instructing them that the slaves of the high men of the tribes must be released, where they request or demand it, and that in no case, no matter what means are required or necessary to prevent it, must the Dattos of the various tribes be allowed to use cruel or inhuman treatment toward their subjects."

THE CHINA MEDAL.

The *P. & T. Times* writes:—"An application has been forwarded by the military authorities on behalf of the British members of the Shanghai Volunteers as recipients for the China medal: we believe there is a confident hope that it will be granted. If it be, the favour will be a delicious satire on its refusal to the gallant youngsters of the Consular, Customs, Bank and other 'services' who acted the parts of heroes in Peking. We have no hesitation whatever in assigning some of the blame of the shameful action of the War Office in this matter to the discreditable inactivity of Sir Claude Macdonald; had he as a soldier refused to accept the honours he so richly deserved unless his gallant civil comrades-in-arms were duly recognised, the War Office in very shame would never have dared to refuse. We beg to remind Sir Claude of Robert's attitude when the War Office tried to refuse the Victoria Cross to Parson Adams: 'Bobs' said if this non-combatant were denied his due honours, he himself would accept none. Sir Claude's influence at the Foreign Office could easily have been brought to bear on the War Office. He is distinctly in our opinion stultified by the present position of affairs. 'Lest we forget' indeed: Sir Claude seems himself to have forgotten soon enough. As a quondam admirer of Sir Claude we grieve to sing the monody:

Blow, blow thou winter wind,
Thou art not so unkind
As man's ingratitude.

The grievance against the Minister is not that he did not apply for some recognition; we feel certain that he did: the indignation is wholly because he did not insist on it, and stand staunchly by his gallant followers.

A Bangkok firm received a telegram from Raheng, Northern Siam, on the 10th inst. stating that all the Europeans, with the exception of Capt. Jensen and Mr. Leonowens, left Lakon Lampang on the evening of the 5th inst. to make their way down to Raheng. This news was telephoned from Lakon to Raheng. When the telephone message was sent the town was still safe, and was being held by Capt. Jensen and his Gendarmerie. According to another report, of uncertain origin, the above is correct but apart from those mentioned there are very few others in Lakon. When Capt. Jensen got back from his pursuit of the Shans he found the place deserted. There is now placarded along the streets of Bangkok a Government proclamation with regard to the trouble in the North. It is termed a proclamation bidding the people not be afraid on account of the many rumours, and is issued by the Minister for Local Government.

GOVERNOR TAFT ON THE PHILIPPINES.

Interviewed by the *Singapore Free Press* before he left for Manila, Mr. W. H. Taft, Governor of the Philippines, was naturally reticent about the mission to the Vatican. However, in view of the various reports as to the success or failure of his mission, he stated authoritatively that no decision has been arrived at at Rome, but the negotiations there were more of a preliminary nature than anything else. The only actual result was that an Apostolic delegate to the Philippines is to be appointed who will proceed to the Islands in a reasonably short time and as the result of his investigations there and consequent recommendations to the Vatican a settlement of the troublesome question may be confidently expected.

The Government of the Philippines is purely a Civil one at the present time, said Governor Taft, the pacification of the Filipinos is practically complete and the Islands are free from the military régime. The Civil Commission as a governing body was formerly under the Commander-in-Chief of the Philippines but now this has all been altered and the U. S. forces at present in the Island, numbering 18,000 officers N. C. O.'s and men, are under the command of a Major-General who commands them as a division of the U. S. Army. The Civil Commission is empowered to administer the Government according to the President's instructions. Governor Taft at its head, with additional powers conferred on him. All important measures are subject to revocation by the U. S. Secretary for War, but in minor matters the Governor and Commission are paramount. The Commission has authority to sell public land, to grant mining rights and concessions, to grant corporate franchise rights for railroads and in short to act in every way desirable for the public improvement. A new era is confidently looked forward to despite the vigorous opposition of a small section of Anti-Imperialists in the United States. After two years a census of the islands is to be taken and then, if in the opinion of the President of the U. S. the step is justified, there will be created a Lower House consisting of from fifty to a hundred representatives chosen from the people, whilst the present governing body will constitute an Upper Chamber, similar to the political representation in the Mother Country. None would be excluded from the Lower House on racial grounds; a Filipino, Spanish or Mestizo U. S. subject if properly elected, would be able to take his seat in as regular a manner as an American and in this way the voice of the people in the cause of its own government would be distinctly heard.

The silver problem is unsettled. The Commission which was appointed to enquire into the matter recommended a gold standard, like that of Japan, that is, that a silver peso should be coined which should be worth fifty cents gold or silver and which should be kept on a parity with gold by a limited coinage, similar to the rupee in India. The House Committee of the House of Representatives approved of this recommendation and embodied it in this Bill, which was passed, but the Senate Committee was afraid that it was too radical a measure for the Orient, where there was so much free silver coinage in the shape of British and Mexican dollars. As the two Houses could not agree on the subject, nothing was done except that authority was given for a subsidiary coinage. The main issue, however, will continue in abeyance until Congress meets in September next; at present there has been no decision one way or the other.

Among the recent arrivals in Shanghai from San Francisco is Dr. S. A. Ransom, of the United States Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, who has been sent to Shanghai for the purpose of conducting a branch of the Government Quarantine Service, the object being to inspect thoroughly all vessels, which have been cleared for American ports, and to issue certificates, duly signed to that effect. Similar stations have been introduced at Yokohama and Hongkong, and have proved a success, thanks to the co-operation of the shipping people. At Kobe and Nagasaki medical agents of the Government have been stationed to act in the same capacity as the doctors of the larger shipping ports of the East.

HONGKONG.

Among the passengers expected here by the *Prinz Regent Luitpold* is Dr. Solf, German Governor of Samoa.

The Commissioner in the Far East and Australia of the Louisiana Purchase Exhibition, Mr. John Barrett, arrived in Hongkong by the *Polynesian* on the 25th inst.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week were 200 non-Chinese and 44 Chinese to the former, 79 non-Chinese and 1,723 Chinese to the latter institution.

His Honour A. G. Wise has been appointed Chairman, and Mr. F. J. Badeley member of the Squatters' Board. The other members are the Hon. W. Chatham, Mr. C. McL. Messer, and Mr. J. H. Kemp.

The R. W. Fusiliers were awarded the tie in the semi-final round of the Hongkong Water Polo Association Shield Competition at the V.R.C. on Thursday their opponents, the 62nd Co., R.G.A., failing to put in an appearance. To-night the V.R.C. "A" team are due to play the Naval Depot.

At the Magistracy on the 23rd inst., Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Police Magistrate, gave his decision in the enquiry held by him into the circumstances attending the recent fire in a medicine-shop at 293, Queen's Road. His Worship decided that the evidence adduced did not justify the issue of a warrant against the proprietors.

H.M.S. *Rinaldo* came out of dock on Thursday and proceeds to Weihaiwei to-day. While in Tytam Bay on Saturday she ran aground and had to be towed into dock for repairs. It was found that the bilge keel was slightly damaged and two copper plates on the starboard bow were battered in. The *Rinaldo* having taken on board stores and ammunition, there will be no delay in her departure.

A dangerous and annoying practice with regard to which several complaints have been made of late is that indulged in by some persons of throwing things from house-verandahs at people passing on the streets below. On Friday at midnight while two Europeans were walking up Wyndham Street on their way home, one of them was hit on the head by a mango thrown apparently from the verandah of a boarding-house there, knocking off his straw hat and bruising his temple. The seriousness of this offence can hardly be too much insisted upon: the European in question narrowly escaped a possible injury to his eyesight. On Sunday night, again, the European occupant of a ricksha was struck in the mouth by a stone in Winglok Street, and no policemen could be found anywhere near the spot where the outrage occurred.

Instances of cruelty to animals continue to be remarkably apparent in Hongkong, and one wonders when a branch of the S.P.C.A. is going to be set up locally: it has been promised so long but has never taken form. There has been in this respect a great improvement noticeable in the Market of late, thanks mainly to the vigilance and energy of Inspector McEwen, but in the streets and in private shops one often comes across cases of animals and fowls being thoughtlessly tortured. It is nothing uncommon to see fowls hanging by the feet from nails stuck in walls, a position in which they must have remained for many hours. And in the handling of pigs being put ashore from boats from the mainland the same cruelty is to be observed on the part of many of the Chinese. Another customary sight is the Chinaman carrying home for his evening meal suspended by a bamboo string, gasping, live fish. In Queen's Road the other day the passers-by were astonished to see a huge fish leap out of one of two baskets that were being carried on the shoulders of a coolie. He unconcernedly gripped the wriggling victim and thrust it once more into tortured captivity.

The first-class cruiser *Blenheim* arrived early on the 21st inst. from Weihaiwei.

H.M.S.S. *Wipera* and *Taku* are in dock at Kowloon.

The British second-class cruiser *Arethusa* and the American transport *Buffalo* arrived from Shanghai on the 23rd inst.

The U. S. transport *Buffalo*, which arrived on Saturday from Shanghai, left yesterday for New York. The U. S. flagship *Rainbow* arrived on Sunday from Manila.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Major Imai, commander of the Japanese garrison at Shanghai, died of dysentery on the 21st inst.

The *Times* Ottawa correspondent states that Count Komura, Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, has sent the Canadian Government a strong protest against the restricted legislation enacted in British Columbia, which the Federal authorities will undoubtedly disallow.

In the district of Shou Yang hsien, Shansi, some 3,000 have died of cholera within the short space of ten days. The plague began before the rains fell and has not yet stayed its havoc. Several other districts are affected and there is consternation at the peril, the *China Times* says.

Baron von Czikann, the Austrian Minister in Peking, arrived in Vienna on the 19th ult., coming by the Siberian Railway. Baron von Czikann says travelling on the Siberian Railway is rather tiresome and very slow. During the greater part of the journey the accommodation was rather deficient.

On the 21st inst., there was launched from the International Dockyard of Messrs S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Ltd., at Shanghai, the U.S. lighthouse-tender *Corrigidor*. This is the third of this class of steamer built by the above Company to the order of the Insular Government. Her dimensions are as follows:—length over all, 148 feet; breadth, 25 feet; depth, 11 ft 9 in.

The following appointments have been made at the Admiralty:—Lieutenants: Cyril Asser, to *Glory*, for *Fame*; Chas. P. Mansell, to *Tamar*, for *Whiting*; Geo. C. Hardy, to *Goliath*, for *Hart* (all in command on recommissioning, undated); Robert G. Hammond, to *Goliath*, for *Hart*, on recommissioning (undated). Sub-Lieutenants: Herbert R. Stokes, to *Glory*, for *Fame*; John A. S. Blackwood, to *Tamar*, for *Whiting*, both on recommissioning (undated); Inspector of Machinery W. Sharp, to the *Goliath*, additional, for service with the China Fleet (to date July 21).

Orders have been issued directing the 30-knot torpedo-boat destroyer *Fame* to be recommissioned on the China Station, and attached as tender to the battleship *Glory*, flagship of Sir Cy rian A. G. Bridge, Commander-in-Chief. The *Fame* will be commissioned by Lieut.-Com. C. Asser. The 30-knot destroyer *Whiting* and the 27-knot destroyer *Hart* also ordered to be recommissioned on the China Station, the *Whiting* by Lieut. C. P. Mansell, as tender to the *Tamar*, receiving ship at Hongkong, and the *Hart* by Lieut. G. C. Hardy as tender to the battleship *Goliath*.

At Tsintau the governmental palace has been enlarged by additional buildings. The Government out there also is busy making good what the Chinese had spoiled in their time; they had hewn down all the trees in the settlement, without planting new ones in their place. It is hoped that as the settlement is forested again the climate out there will improve. The military force at Kiaochow so far has consisted of five companies; the Naval Field Artillery of the three sea battalions and the Naval Artillery detachment. On Oct. 1 the whole detachment will be altered into a Naval Artillery detachment. Up to now a captain-lieutenant was the commander of the detachment, but on Oct. 1 an officer of the Staff will command the new formation, and Navy Captain Jacobsen has been named for that office, after having been busy in China since 1901.

To a correspondent who has had a conversation with him Viscount Watanabe stated that he regarded Japan's financial position as thoroughly sound. Comparing the ordinary expenditure with the income the balance was on the right side. He had no reason to believe that any depression in Japan's finance was to be looked for in the near future. On the contrary, he thought there was the strongest justification for thinking that the era of prosperity that had set in would continue. Asked how he regarded the alliance between England and Japan Viscount Watanabe replied, "I agree with it in every respect." It would make for peace in the Far East as nothing had ever done before. That identity of interest which had given birth to the alliance would continue, he hoped, for a long time. It was the duty of England and Japan to ensure peace as far as possible in the Far East.

The *Perak Pioneer* has the following reference to the new scheme for subordinates in the P.W.D. of the F.M.S. Service:—"It opens a splendid field for those in the service who are blessed with a good stock of brains. They will have no other body but themselves to blame in future, should the Government find it necessary to advertise for the filling of an existing vacancy carrying desirable emoluments, which according to the scheme will only be resorted to failing the presence of a competent man in the department."

The Right Rev. Thomas O'Gorman, bishop of Sioux Falls, has returned to the United States from Rome, where he was present during the negotiations between Judge Taft and the Vatican as to the friar lands. He brought with him an autograph letter from the Holy Father to President Roosevelt. The letter dwelt upon the amicable relations existing between the Roman Church and the government of the United States, regarding the position and future of the friars in the Philippines. A mosaic picture sent by the Pope accompanied the letter, which was personally delivered by Bishop O'Gorman to the president.

Various promotions in and appointments to the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, intimation of which has already been made, were announced in the *London Gazette* of the 22nd. Amongst these were:—To be G.C.M.G.:—Sir Ernest Mason Satow, K.C.M.G., His Majesty's Minister at Peking. To be K.C.M.G.:—Commodore Francis Powell, R.N., for services in China. He is commodore in charge of naval establishments, Hongkong. He was decorated for services at Benin, and now enjoys the good service pension. Pelham Laird Warren, Esq., C.M.G., His Majesty's Consul-General at Shanghai, for services in China. Mr. Warren passed his student intership in 1867, and has been in China ever since. To be C.M.G.:—William John Archer, Esq., His Majesty's Consul at Bangkok. Captain Arthur Calvert Clarke, R.N., for services in China. Chapman James Clare, South Australian Naval Defence Force, for services in China. Commander Ernest Frederic Augustus Gaunt, R.N., for services in China.

The *Shanghai Times* publishes the following telegram, under date 18th August, purporting to give the final decision as to the future of the Hongkong Regiment:—"Definite announcement is made to-day that the Hongkong Regiment will be immediately disbanded, being replaced by the Ninth Gurkhas. This would seem to relieve the doubt that has of late found expression at Hongkong in regard to the future of the organisation; for while it seems to have been understood there, and at other places in the East, that a change was impending in that Colony, no authoritative statement was justified until to-day. The order for immediate disbandment will probably stand liberal interpretation. There will certainly be no great haste in that proceeding. The order may be construed to mean that disbandment is expected to occur at the time of the arrival of the Gurkhas at Hongkong. An official note attends the order, seemingly designed to pillow possible disappointment in any quarter. It says that disbandment is due only to the introduction of the new system of military reliefs."

The *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent at Hsingha, Fohkien province, wrote on the 8th August that plague was then worse in the north-eastern corner of the prefecture than ever in the past. "The Christian are recommending Dr. Sampson's serum and the populace is gradually availing itself of this prophylactic. At first only the students in the mission schools could be induced to submit to inoculation, but latterly the demand is becoming positive and general." Unfortunately Dr. Sampson, of the C. M. S., had to lay down his work for a season and return to England. A French doctor from Saigon is still there, with his serum. The correspondent continues:—"From Foochow we hear even more alarming accounts. It is stated these last few days that 1,000 are dying daily, and that more have already been swept off than during the terrible visitation last summer. Coffins can no longer be supplied for all, it is said." Native accounts of both cholera and plague are simply heart-rending, the writer says. Allowing for the inevitable exaggeration, one nevertheless gets the impression that the twin scourges vie with each other in decimating the doomed population.

A hemp-rope factory is shortly to be started in Manila, with modern machinery. The site is in Santa Mesa, near the river.

A Tientsin telegram says that the money handed over to Viceroy Yuan Shikai by the Provisional Government was Tls. 185,024.

It is expected that the tidal waves which have done so much damage in Formosa recently will decrease the annual yield of salt very materially.

The U. S. revenue cruiser *Negros*, one of the ten being built for the U. S. Philippine Government by Messrs. S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co. of Shanghai, went on a successful official trial trip on Monday last.

All the fighting in the Philippines is not over yet, for the Moros continue busily at the work of molesting outposts in Mindanao. The attacking parties, however, in all cases are small, and deaths very few on either side, it appears.

The Japanese warships *Asuma* and *Takasago* sailed from England on the 18th inst., homeward bound. King Edward, in signalling farewell, expressed his thanks at their having come to England, and wished them a pleasant voyage.

The time of transit by the Chinese Eastern and Siberian Railways seems to be improving. A book-packet despatched from Port Arthur on the 10th June was received in London on the 7th ult., which is the fairly good time of 27 days.

At Kuala Lumpur, F.M.S., the question of registration of servants has come to a head. A draft of a Servants' Registration Enactment, which is to be laid before the Government, has been drawn up, and has been submitted to the public for discussion.

The Municipal authorities of Singapore propose to make provision during the next five years for a daily supply of 10,000,000 gallons of water. The cost is estimated at \$2,500,000—an approximate estimate only, since the work will be spread over a number of years and the dollar cost of labour and material may be expected to fluctuate.

We have received No. 2 of the magazine *Der Ferne Osten*, the German edition of the bilingual publication of which the English edition is known as *The East of Asia*. We have already noticed the latter's second number, so that we need say no more than that its German contemporary is equally excellently planned and carried out.

Regarding the Java-China-Japan line of steamers, it is said that three private Netherlands dockyards are invited to deliver tenders each for one vessel—viz., at Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Flushing. One steamer will be constructed out of Holland. The steamer must have a length of about 300 English feet with engines of 1,500 indicated horse-power.

The latest census taken by the Nagasaki Municipal Office shows that the total foreign population there numbers 1,335. These are divided into 432 families consisting of 920 males and 415 females. As to nationality, the Chinese come easily first, their total being 717; British next with 123; Americans, 122; Russians, 120; French, 55; Germans, 48. The balance includes Austrian, Italian, Dutch, Danish, Greek, Egyptian, Indian, and Jewish people.

One of the eleven Spanish gunboats which were sunk by Dewey's fleet on 10th May, 1898, has been raised by the Philippine Engineering and Construction Company. After a full month's work, Capt. C. W. Meade, who has the work in charge, finally succeeded in bringing the *Marques del Duero* to the surface. The usual method of raising sunken vessels was not employed in raising this vessel; instead of using lighters and purchases, Capt. Meade built bulwarks about the damaged parts of the gunboat, then freed her from the water by means of powerful pumps.

A Tokyo private despatch to Shanghai states that it is reported in Chinese circles in the former city that Minister Ts'ai Chun will probably return to China some time early in October next; further, that it is learned that telegraphic instructions had been sent to Prince Tsai Chên, the Special Coronation Ambassador, who is on his return to China via the United States and Japan, that when His Highness arrives in Tokyo he is to make a secret enquiry into the recent dispute between the Minister and Chinese private students in Japanese schools, and also go thoroughly into the question of the sending of students abroad.

It is understood that Governor Taft purposes to begin the Philippines census as soon as possible after his return to Manila. Filipinos, mostly, will be employed in the work.

At Tientsin on the 9th inst. the Haikuangsu bell was rung for the first time in honour of the Coronation Celebration. The Military Parade was abandoned owing to the condition of the ground after heavy rain.

The transport *Jelunga*, which left here with the 4th Goorkhas on board, met with an accident on her way to Singapore, the tail shaft of her propelling apparatus cracking. She was to stay at Singapore for repairs.

A Berlin telegram of the 11th inst. reveals the fact that, "It is now known there that the German Government had considered the evacuation of Shanghai long before it was suggested by the Chinese. It was, however, resolved that the troops should only be withdrawn if the other Powers acted in the same manner simultaneously." A despatch of two days later says:—"The evacuation of Shanghai has so far been only proposed at London. The opinion prevails here that it cannot be carried out before the four Powers interested have come to an understanding."

The latest news to hand from Manila brought by the *Perta* reveals some startling developments in connection with the strike of the cigar-operatives. It appears that the men were willing and anxious to return to work but they were intimidated, and threatened by the instigator and originator of the strike. Incriminating evidence, in the shape of letters, having been found on persons of a certain man's emissaries (who are all under arrest), a warrant was issued, and he was arrested and lodged at the the Parian Street police station. He is to be tried by Judge Roxas at Pasay and it is now confidently asserted that the removal of this arch-agitator from the arena of contest will speedily bring the strike to an end.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 14th August:—Re-reels.—Remain unchanged at last quotations. No fresh business is reported. Filatures.—Finest sizes have continued to be very actively enquired for, buyers offering at the close \$905 (Frs. 36.75) for Petit Order 9/11, and \$880 (Frs. 35.75) for 10/12. These are however almost unobtainable, coarser sizes and short-reels showing more advantage to producers. "Extra" chops in 11/13 have sold with an advance of 20/25 p. pel. while medium and coarse sizes generally have gained \$10/15 p. pel. Prices paid include: Miu King Lun 11/13 \$890, Kwong Shun Cheong 11/13 \$870/875, Kwong Shun Ching 11/13 \$870, Chee Chung Wo 10/12 \$870/880, Wing Cheong Sing 11/13 \$870 (\$880 now offered), Kai Sun Cheong 13/15 \$842, Kum King Cheong 13/15 \$840, Cheong Hing, Mee Kee 13/15 \$830, Wai King Wo 18/22 \$730/740 (since sold at \$755). "Market" Filatures have again been in great favour up to \$755 (Frs. 30.75) for Best 3rd Class 11/13, 13/15, and \$720 (Frs. 29.50) for 14/18. Short-reels.—American buyers continue in the market at the higher level. Hau Kin Lon, Hau Kin Sing, Kwong Wo Hing 14/16 have been done at \$870, Kwong Shun Cheong 14/16 at \$860, Heen Kee, Cheong Wo Tai 14/16 at \$830, Kwong Lun Hing and equivalent at \$815. Waste.—Values in the interior have further advanced and are quite beyond the reach of foreign buyers. Producers are holding up their stocks in view of dealers having to find cover shortly for their forward contracts.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 29th August.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 29th August.—On account of the arrival of the Chinese mid-autumn festival, a great demand having come forward, the prices are consequently advancing:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.18 to \$8.23 pcl.
do. " 2, White.....	6.75 to 6.80 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	6.07 to 6.12 "
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.88 to 5.91 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.11 to 8.14 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	6.67 to 6.73 "
do. " 1, Brown ...	5.80 to 5.85 "
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.67 to 5.72 "
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	12.10 to 12.15 "
Shekloong "	9.75 to 9.80 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 29th August.—The prices are further advancing, market being brisk:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$3.25 to 3.30
" Round, Good quality	4.20 to 4.25
" Long	4.30 to 4.35
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	3.55 to 3.60
" Garden, " No. 1	3.80 to 3.85
" White.....	4.35 to 4.40
" Fine Cargo	4.55 to 4.60

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORT.

Per P. & O. steamer *Ballaarat*, sailed on the 16th August, For London opt. Manchester:—125 bales waste silk. For London:—50 bales raw silk, 1 case clothing, 1 ingot tin, 6 cases cigars, 2 cases birds feathers, 1 case blackwood-screen, 1 case blackwood and curios, 1 case hardware, 19 bales mats. For Lyons:—509 bales raw silk. For Milan:—30 bales raw silk. For Havre:—1 case feathers. For St. Chamond:—10 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—315 bales raw silk, 3 cases feathers, 1 case silk.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 29th August.—Malwa continues depressed and rates have declined about \$10 a picul without leading to much business.

Bengal was very quiet during the early part of the fortnight. New Patna declined to \$917 and Old Patna to \$927. Subsequently a slight demand sprang up for New Patna for immediate shipment and as the stock of same was small prices hardened to \$930. On the arrival of *Arratoon Apar*, values declined at once, and we now close with a quiet market.

New Patna ...	at \$910
Old Patna ...	" 920
" Benares ...	" 887
Persian.—Superior drug is in demand at \$600 per picul.	
Stock:—	
Patna Benares Malwa Persian	
1,330 468 867½ 2,080	

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 29th August.—A decline of \$½ induced small sales. Stock, about 4. bales. Bombay,..... 21.00 to 23.00 picul, Bengal (New), Rangoon, } 22.50 to 26.00 " and Dacca, } Shanghai and Japanese, . 28.00 to 28.50 " Tungchow and Ningpo, . 28.00 to 28.50 " Sale: 100 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 29th August:—Towards the close of last mail the market became quiet, buyers holding off in consequence of the prevailing floods in the interior, their present requirements being satisfied by receipt of goods previously purchased to arrive. Consequently a much smaller business has to be recorded at an occasional decline of 50 cents to a Dollar per bale, demand, as usual, running chiefly on approved favourite tickets of No. 10s. which form the bulk of the fortnight's settlements. At the close the quietness continues, but as harvesting is now approaching rapid completion, we expect shortly to see buyers again in the market, and considering the condition of the Shanghai market as well as that of Bombay a somewhat bolder front has been assumed by holders and no further decline is likely to be submitted.

Local Manufacture:—No new business reported, the mill being fully engaged in meeting its previous forward contracts.

Japanese Yarn:—In sympathy with Bombay spinners are in small request at easier rates, the only business of the interval being the sale of a lot of 250 bales Yellow Joss No. 20s. at \$121½, market closing weak.

Raw Cotton:—Pending receipt of New Crop, market for China staple continues lifeless, and with an estimated abundant yield, prices are likely to rule much lower and buyers of Indian descriptions are therefore keeping entirely aloof in the hope of forcing the hands of holders who are becoming somewhat anxious. The reported business of the fortnight is some small lots aggregating 78 bales of Superfine Bengal sold at from \$24½ to \$23½, leaving a stock of about 5,000 bales on the market. Quotations are Bengal \$23 to \$24½, Dacca \$24 to \$25 and China \$25 to \$28.

Exchange on India closes to-day at Rs. 180½ for T/T and Rs. 130½ for Post. On Shanghai at \$74 and on Yokohama 18½ per cent. premium.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 15th instant, viz:—

Indian:—A brisk business has been done owing to revival of the demand for the Northern Ports at an appreciation of half to one Tael. Total sales 9,792 bales, comprising 5,819 bales No. 10s., 1,123 bales No. 12s., 230 bales No. 16s., and 3,060 bales No. 20s., market closing strong. Estimated unsold stock about 40,000 bales.

Japanese:—More doing at slightly easier rates. Total sales about 1,500 bales on basis of Tls. 85 to 89½ for No. 16s. and Tls. 90 to 95 for No. 20s.; closing weak.

Local:—Total sales about 500 bales on the basis of Tls. 75 to 76 for No. 10s., Tls. 78½ for No. 14s and Tls. 84 for No. 16s., market closing unsteady.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 29th August.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$85.00 to \$128.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—8 lbs.	2.20 to 2.25
7 lbs.	2.30 to 2.50
8.4 lbs.	3.10 to 3.75
9 to 10 lbs.	3.80 to 5.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.55 to 2.90
58 to 60 "	3.20 to 3.40
64 to 66 "	4.50 to 5.30
Fine.....	5.35 to 7.80
Book-folds	4.50 to 7.00
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.75 to 1.40
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.85 to 2.10
7lbs. (32 ")	2.15 to 2.45
6lbs. (32 ") , Mexs.	2.20 to 2.35
7lbs. (32 ")	2.95 to 3.50
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	3.15 to 3.75
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14 lbs.	4.20 to 6.90

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5 lbs }	1.65 to 5.50
Brocades—Dyed	— to —
DAMASKS—	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08 to 0.20
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.28 to 0.75
Velveteens—18 in.	0.23 to 0.30

	per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.30 to 3.00
WOOLLENS—	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.65 to 2.00
German	1.25 to 3.00
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 3.00

	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	6.50 to 8.50
Assorted.....	6.60 to 8.65
Camlets—Assorted.....	12.00 to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches }	12.00 to 16.00
Assorted }	

Orleans—Plain	8.00 to 9.50
	per pair
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	4.00 to 9.00

	per picul
METALS—	
Iron—Nail Rod	4.55 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.50 to —
Swedish Bar	4.60 to —
Small Round Rod	4.95 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.,	6.15 to —
Wire, 16/25,	9.00 to —
Old Wire Rope	3.00 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	8.00 to —
Australian	8.00 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	40.00 to —
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	4.00 to —
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	40.00 to —
Composition Nails.....	61.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs.....	39.00 to —
Tin.....	82.50 to —

	box. per
Tin-Plates	8.60 to —
	per cwt. case
Steel ½ to ½	6.50 to —

	per picul
SUNDRIES—	
Quicksilver	180.00 to —
	per box.
Window Glass	5.75 to —

	per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil.....	2.30 to —

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—*Benvorlich* (str.), *Sanuki Maru* (str.).

FOR LONDON.—*Chusan* (str.), *Benvorlich* (str.), *Banca* (str.), *Jason* (str.), *Antenor* (str.), *Dardanus* (str.), *Diomed* (str.) *Sanuki Maru* (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—*Pyrrhus* (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—*Banca* (str.), *Tonkin* (str.), *Sanuki Maru* (str.).

FOR GENOA.—*Benvorlich* (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—*Konig Albert* (str.).

FOR HAYE AND HAMBURG.—*Bamberg* (str.), *Sazonia* (str.), *Freiburg* (str.), *Konigsberg* (str.), *Silvia* (str.).

FOR TRIESTE.—*Nippon* (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Iyo Maru* (str.), *Hyades* (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan* (str.), *Tartar* (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—*Glenroy* (str.), *Afton* (str.), *Indrani* (str.), *Lennox* (str.).

FOR PORTLAND (OR.).—*Indrasamha* (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—*Kasuga Maru* (str.), *Guthrie* (str.), *Changsha* (str.).

FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO AND BOMBAY.—*Kagoshima Maru* (str.).

FOR BOMBAY, via SINGAPORE AND PENANG.—*Bisagno* (str.).

FOR SINGAPORE AND BOMBAY.—*Masagon* (str.).

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 29th August.—A fair general enquiry has been met with during the period under review, and some of our principal stocks have improved in marketable value.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been in steady request, and are now quoted at \$592½ buyers. London has advanced to £63 cum dividend.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have sold and are in further request at \$395. China Traders have been taken off the market at \$59. Cantons have been placed at the improved rate of \$170, and are in further demand.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have improved to \$335 buyers, and Chinas to 883 buyers.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have sold at \$37, and can be obtained at the rate. Indos have ruled very erratic with reported sales from 885 down to 880, closing with possible sellers at the latter rate. China Manilas and Douglasses are without change. Star Ferries (new) have sold at \$10½. Shell transports are on offer at £2.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars in the early part of the week fell rapidly to \$90, but have since recovered, and are now quoted at \$100 sellers. Luzons are offering at \$15.

MINING.—Punjoms have sold and are on offer at \$4½. Preferences have been placed at \$1 and more are obtainable. Jebebus are wanted at \$1½ after sales at the rate. Raubs are lower again with sellers at \$6.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue in steady request, and can now be placed at \$212½. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have been placed at \$87 and \$86 and a few more shares can be obtained at the latter rate. New Amoy Docks have sold and are in further request at \$37.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have sold at \$170 and \$171½, and close steady with probable buyers at \$172. Kowloon Lands have sold and are wanted at \$30. West Points continue on offer at \$50. Humphreys Estates can be placed at \$11½. Hongkong Hotels close steady at \$131 ex the half-yearly dividend of \$6 per share paid on the 25th instant.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have declined to Tls. 40 sellers. Laou Kung Mows are in the market at Tls. 45; and Internationals at Tls. 35. Hongkong Cottons can be obtained at \$17.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements are weak at \$20½ sellers. Watsons have sold at \$14½. Ropes have declined to \$14½ sellers. Campbell Moores have jumped to \$30 buyers. China Providents are still on offer at \$10. Powells can be obtained at \$8½.

MEMOS.—Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., interim dividend of \$2 per share payable on the 30th instant. Campbell, Moore & Co., Ltd., ordinary annual meeting of shareholders on the 9th September.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	(\$592½, buyers L'don, £63.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	28	\$27, sellers
B. Shares	28	\$27, sellers
Foun. Shares	21	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	21	\$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$30, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$20, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$15, sellers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$10, sales & sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$100, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$500, nominal.
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$45, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 40, sellers
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 35, sellers
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 45, sellers
Soycheo	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Hongkong	\$100	\$17, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$12, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$47, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$20½, sales & sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40.
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$5	\$6½.
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.	\$100	\$345, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$131, ex div., sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$240, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$86, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$140, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$212½, buyers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$170, sales & buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$83, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$59, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$335, buyers
North China	\$25	Tls. 187½, buyers
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$395, sales & buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$127½, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$172.
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$11½, sales & buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, sales & buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$50, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$15, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$20, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$550.
Jebebu	\$5	\$1½, sales & buyers
Punjom	\$10	\$4½, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1, sales
Raubs	18	\$6, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$37, sales & buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$45, sellers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$8½, sellers
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$55.
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$32½, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$43, sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$37, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$80, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	\$1	\$22, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	(\$20½, sellers \$10½, sales nominal.
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$8½, sellers
United Abestos	\$10	\$155, buyers
Do.	\$5	\$20, sellers
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$7, buyers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$14½, sales & sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	

VERNON & SMYTH Brokers.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 29th August.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/8½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/8½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/8½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.18½
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.22½
ON GERMANY.—On demand	1.78
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	42½
Credits, 60 days' sight	43½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	130½
Bank, on demand	130½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	130½
Bank, on demand	130½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	74
Private, 30 days' sight	74½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	18½ p.c.m.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	1½ p.c.m.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 p.c.m.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	104½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	1½ p.c.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	1 p.c.m.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	60½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11.43
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$60.20
BAR SILVER per oz.	24½

TONNAGE.

Karin—Swedish steamer, 698 tons, Moji to Amoy, \$2.25 per ton.
Domingo de Laringer—British steamer, 2,451 tons, Moji or Kuchinotsu to Singapore, \$2 per ton.
Themis—Norwegian steamer, 1,209 tons, Moji or Kuratsu to Manila, \$3 per ton.
Fiksan—British steamer, 837 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$1.80 per ton.
Quarta—German steamer, 1,146 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.
Taicheong—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16½ cents per picul.
Skarpino—Norwegian steamer, 1,130 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.
Telemachus—British steamer, 1,340 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16½ cents per picul.
Emma Luyken—German steamer, 1,109 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16½ cents per picul.
Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.
Deuteros—German steamer, 1,001 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.
Bjorn—Norwegian steamer, 724 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.
Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, Saigon to Iloilo, 25½ cents per picul.
Ely—Norwegian steamer, 708 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 2 cents per picul.
Taiyu—German steamer, 1,065 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 25 cents per picul.
Tailee—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 28 cents per picul.
Independent—German steamer, 1,040 tons, Saigon to Iloilo, 28 cents per picul.
Prima—Norwegian steamer, 761 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 28 cents per picul.
Lisa—Swedish steamer, 998 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 27 cents per picul.
Thea—German steamer, 934 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 27 cents per picul.
Nanyang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 27 cents per picul.
Hansa—German steamer, 1,201 tons, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 25 cents per picul.
Madeleine Rickmers—German steamer, 1,027 tons, Saigon to Yokohama, 27 cents per picul.
Deramore—Norwegian steamer, 1,479 tons, Saigon to Yokohama, 27 cents per picul.
Babelsberg—German steamer, 1,377 tons, Saigon to one port Japan, 26 cents per picul.
Hermann Menzell—German steamer, 1,004 tons, Iloilo to Kobe or Yokohama, 28 cents per picul.
Skramstad—Norwegian steamer, 759 tons, Iloilo to Shanghai, 32 cents per picul.
Proteus—Norwegian steamer, monthly, 6/6 months, private terms.
Haldis—Norwegian steamer, 1,040 tons, hence to Mauritius and back, \$7,000 per month.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

August—

ARRIVALS.

23, Dott, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 23, Skramstad, Norwegian str., from Iloilo.
 24, Rainbow, U.S. transport, from Shanghai.
 24, Taichow, German str., from Bangkok.
 24, Yedo Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.
 25, Germania, German str., from Singapore.
 25, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 25, Siam, British str., from Singapore.
 25, Sullberg, German str., from Chefoo.
 26, Chihli, British str., from Canton.
 26, Deramore, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 26, Diomed, British str., from Liverpool.
 26, Elsa, German str., from Canton.
 26, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 26, Indrasamha, British str., from Portland.
 26, Indrani, British str., from Manila.
 26, Jas. Brand, British str., from Pulo Samboe.
 26, Kaifong, British str., from Cebu.
 26, Kamakura Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 26, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Australia.
 26, Laos, French str., from Marseilles.
 26, Lennox, British str., from Amoy.
 26, Pe'ararch, German str., from Saigon.
 26, Proteus, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
 26, Rajaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
 26, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 26, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 26, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
 27, Anna, Austrian str., from Moji.
 27, Couler, British barque, from Rajang.
 27, C. Ferd. Laeisz, Ger. str., from Foochow.
 27, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 27, Elsa, German str., from Saigon.
 27, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 27, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 27, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 27, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 27, Nanchang, British str., from Canton.
 27, Saga, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 27, Triumph, German str., from Hoihow.
 27, Vladimir, Russian trspt., from Shanghai.
 27, Halotis, Dutch str., from Palembang.
 28, Arratoon Apcar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
 28, Benvorlich, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, China, German str., from Singapore.
 28, Feiching, British str., from Canton.
 28, R. Dickinson, Brit. str., from Balik Papan.
 28, Ness, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
 28, Bengal, British str., from Bombay.
 29, Chusan, British str., from Shanghai.
 29, Glengarry, British str., from London.
 29, Kohsichang, German str., from Bangkok.
 29, Prima, Norwegian str., from Iloilo.
 29, Schwalbe, German cruiser, from Foochow.
 29, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.

August—

DEPARTURES.

24, Kriemhild, Norwegian ship, for Callao.
 24, Lowther Castle, Brit. str., for New York.
 24, Nippon, Austrian str., for Yokohama.
 25, Buffalo, Amr. trspt., for San Francisco.
 25, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 25, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 25, Polynesien, French str., for Europe.
 25, Riojun Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 26, Babelsberg, German str., for Singapore.
 26, Bjorn, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 26, Chowtai, German str., for Bangkok.
 26, Freiburg, German str., for Yokohama.
 26, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 26, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 26, Hamburg, British barque, for New York.
 26, Kweilin, British str., for Chefoo.
 26, Laos, French str., for Shanghai.
 26, Michael Jensen, German str., for Hoihow.
 26, Onsang, British str., for Yokohama.
 26, Pronto, German str., for Iloilo.
 26, Seneca, British str., for Singapore.
 26, Shansi, British str., for Nagasaki.
 26, Tritos, German str., for Swatow.
 26, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
 27, Anping Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 27, Brunhilde, German str., for Saigon.
 27, Chunsang, British str., for Canton.
 27, Chwnshan, British str., for Swatow.
 27, Dott, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 27, Empress of India, Brit. str., for V'conver.
 27, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
 27, Kwangping, British str., for Tientsin.
 27, Pax, Belgian str., for Manila.
 27, Sentis, Norwegian str., for Shanghai.
 27, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 27, Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Devawongse, German str., for Bangkok.

28, Diomed, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, D. de Larrinaga, British str., for Moji.
 28, Hyades, British str., for Manila.
 28, Indrani, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Kamakura Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 28, Keelung Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
 28, Lennox, British str., for New York.
 28, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 28, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Arnold Luyken, German str., for Swatow.
 29, C. Ferd. Laeisz, German str., for Hamburg.
 29, Chihli, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Feiching, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, James Brand, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Kumano Maru, Japanese str., for Japan.
 29, Nanchang, British str., for Weihaiwei.
 29, Perla, British str., for Manila.
 29, Sullberg, German str., for Newchwang.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Mrs. Pearne and two children, Mrs. Huok and two children, Miss M. F. de Cruz, Messrs. Lore, Schroeter and Ewen Hughes.

Per *Polynesien*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Count de Serma Jersandal, Capt. A. Haria, Messrs. A. V. Apcar, O. A. Hadar, E. Howard, H. John Barrett, Theodore Hardie, C. Georg, Josant, Haristes, Julien, Paul Eustate, H. Siva, Lhuillier and Hoskourit; for Saigon, from Nagasaki, Mr. T. Kisido; from Shanghai, Messrs. Fournier and C. Jean Baptiste; for Singapore, from Shanghai, Mr. Boemken; for Colombo, from Shanghai, Messrs. J. R. Vaughan and George Drakedis; for Port Said, from Yokohama, Messrs. Abben Jose and Jahea Joseph; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Miss Viablaner; from Nagasaki, Messrs. Aggery, Beanal, Kerenfort, Verre, Martial Sauz de Elors and Sabanier; from Shanghai, Messrs. de Belle, Traut, de Vigouroux d'Orvieu, E. Goyet, P. Deneu, Marel, Elegocet, Leroux, de la Roche Crochard d'Auzay, Lasquellat, Pretet, Guiard, Bonnure, Allouette, Remy and Valla.

Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Mrs. J. M. Kneberg and child, Mrs. H. C. Russel, Messrs. W. E. Miller, J. Ohtsuru, R. N. Morce, Lloyd Wettener, F. C. Cushing and G. Tourmall.

Per *Indrasamha*, from Yokohama, Mrs. and Master Wilgress.

Per *Kaifong*, for Cebu, Dr. and Mrs. Hall, Dr. H. A. Shaw and Mr. C. R. Reynolds.

Per *Kamakura Maru*, from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Hurley, Messrs. H. Tyack, I. Inglis, T. Ritchie, McKenzie, R. D. King, F. A. Lindsey and Wm. Baunas.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Newhall, Sir Evie Erskine, Paymaster C. M. Ray, Capt. Smiley, Lieut. Col. Cornish, Messrs. M. de Gaitin, E. Brunchaig, C. J. Weid, J. J. Bridger, F. W. Keith, J. H. Aukrom, C. H. Pameuson and F. Laurence.

Per *Laos*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Revs. Fortin and Thomas, Messrs. Boucheron and Werner; from Colombo, Mrs. Forchong and infant and Mr. Geargaud; from Singapore, Rev. Kernan and Mr. R. Marnoz; from Saigon, Mrs. H. Bonnecke, Mrs. A. Necker, Messrs. Suzor and Francois Asson; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Pilate, Mrs. Roisin, Capt. Castes, Bellanger and Tetard, Lieuts. Boyer, Robiony, Lafleur and Legros, Sub-Lieut. Leroux, Revs. Deneux, Tournier, and Tetard, Earl H. Lyall, Messrs. And. Puthod, Gesland, Schouster, Le Guall, Binard, Antonini, Poirat, Mattei, Florenti, Infanti, Caillet, Santucci, Mongin, Menager, Caillaud, Feray and A. Bovet; from Singapore, Messrs. Caravella and D. Meris; from Saigon, Mr. Vincent; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Messrs. Hergault, O'Neill, Dubourg, Bonestrite, Gueritan and Rev. P. Huss; from Colombo, Lieut. G. W. G. Haslam; from Batavia, Mr. W. K. A. Burghardt; for Kobe, from Marseilles, Mr. Grimand; for Nagasaki, from Singapore, Mrs. Onatsuo and Mr. Yashida.

Per *Diomed*, from Liverpool, Lieuts. C. Asser and B. J. Snowden and Surg. R. E. Richards.

Per *Kumano Maru*, from Australia, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. F. Collier and child, Mrs. and Miss Moore, Misses Russell, R. Johnston, E. R. Johnston and Regdy, Rev. E. M. Collick, Messrs. R. F. Rogerson, A. J. Corlill, A. J. Hankey, C. Ingram, Cobb, G. M. Lack, Davis and Miguel; for Nagasaki, Lieut. P. Diotchkov and Miss A. Browne; for Kobe, Mr. B. Rockwell, Misses F. and M. Rockwell; for

Yokohama, Mrs. E. H. Ferrier, Mrs. Suour, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Lassetter and son, Mrs. J. E. Black, Miss Black, Mr. and Mrs. F. Curol, Capt. V. E. Russell, Messrs. G. White, B. Mawirre, Jos. Morton, H. E. Good, F. Lassetter, D. Solomon, E. Pincherle, W. E. Giel, J. J. Murphy, D. McLean, W. H. Browne, May and D. F. Lynch.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Mr. and Mrs. Pfordten and Misses Pfordten (3), Archdeacon and Mrs. Banister, Messrs. Tibbey, Balloch and P. Dow.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, from Japan, for Hongkong, Capt. A. S. Cauklin, Misses Skipton, Hawker and P. B. Hassler, Messrs. N. Toge, B. Havner, H. Norman, H. G. Greceben and Thompson, Master C. E. Davis, Mrs. K. Koshu, Mr. and Mrs. I. Muraoka, Mrs. K. Fukuda, Mrs. K. Ishima, Misses U. Umeya and N. Kai, Mr. B. Haraguchi; for Thursday Island, Mr. D. Twomey; for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Berry, Misses Tyson and Thomas, Messrs. C. B. Godkin and K. Morita; for Melbourne, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Vail, Mr., Mrs. and Miss A. Aitken.

Per *Arratoon Apcar*, from Calcutta, &c., Mr. Simmonds.

Per *Bengal*, for Hongkong, from London, Messrs. Smith, Turner and H. J. Reynolds, Lieuts. C. S. Townsend, A. H. B. M. Addison, H. L. Jones, W. Young and A. Barnby; from Marseilles, Capt. Bayley and Mr. R. Scott; from Bombay, Messrs. W. Vullubhoy and S. Rehmtulla; from Colombo, Rev. S. L. Clarke, R.N., and Capt. Hewetson; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Derrick, Sirdar Khan, Messrs. A. A. Remedios and Geo. McBain; for Shanghai, from London, Messrs. C. Hasspur and Tate; from Marseilles, Mr. C. S. Atkinson; for Yokohama, from London, Mr. A. Hills; from Marseilles, Messrs. A. Wadman, Rustad and L. Saunders; from Brindisi, Mr. A. W. Bragg.

DEPARTED.

Per *Tamba Maru*, from Hongkong, for London, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Hymovitch, Mrs. Okito, Mrs. Russ, Mrs. T. B. Vaughan, Misses G. Smith and K. Mori, Captains G. T. Blaxland and A. Ramsay, Dr. T. Inouye, Messrs. G. F. Williams, W. O. A. Shepherd, B. van Nemethy, S. Sato, T. Toshimoto, T. Taniguchi, N. Ozaki, J. Asai, S. Simon, Yamaguchi, G. Wooley, T. D. Coulter and L. Lebovitch.

Per *Empress of India*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. Schuldt, Mr. and Mrs. G. Harling and child, Mrs. Enter, Major J. G. Radcliffe, Capt. J. N. Whitehead, Misses M. Joseph and Maria Cruz, Messrs. A. R. Stockhausen, G. J. M. Flemmyng and Carlill; for Nagasaki, Sir Erie Erskine; for Kobe, Mr. W. D. Graham; for Yokohama, Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Hall, Lieut. Col. G. A. Hughes, Messrs. W. J. Herlaud, D. Macdonald and F. J. V. Jorge; for San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Newhall, Messrs. Jno. A. Gustofson and Wm. Ladd; for Toronto, Miss C. R. Prentice; for Chicago, Wash, Mrs. H. C. Russell and Mr. J. Gibson; for New York, Lieut. C. King, U.S.A.; for Liverpool, Mr. A. Ross; for Cincinnati, Mrs. J. Aukron; for Detroit, Mich., Senor Pedro Llame and Senor Jose Rivera; for Seattle, Mr. C. McGee; for St. Paul, Minn., Mrs. J. M. Kinseley and infant and Mr. W. E. Miller; for London, Capt. J. J. O'B. Sexton, Misses E. Russell, Randall Johnson and F. Randall Johnson; for Capt. R. E. Tilney and Sergt. C. P. Pilley; from Yokohama, for San Francisco, Mr. M. R. Alexander; for London, Miss M. Reid.

Per *Kumano Maru*, for Japan, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Lassetter, Mr. A. B. Lassetter and Master Lassetter, Mr. and Mrs. T. Collier and child, Miss Collier, Mrs. C. A. de Jesus, Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Seatto, Lieut. and Mrs. G. S. Palmer, Mrs. Suour, Mrs. Ferrier, Mrs. and Miss Black, Mr. and Mrs. F. Carol, Mrs. Ota, Mrs. Inouye, Misses Ridgely, Wright, Rockwell, F. Rockwell, Montgomery, Jourolmon, Brown, Capt. Radcliffe, Russ. II and Rockwell, Rev. Collick, Lieut. P. Diachtker, Messrs. J. Morton, White, Pincherle, Mannier, McLean, W. Gill, J. F. De Jesus, Murphy, Good, J. N. Kalf, Solomon, G. Matsui, Brown, F. Hynch, May and S. Misunoma.

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